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THE TIMES

No. 64,852 FRIDAY JANUARY 14 1994 SL

Savage report embarrasses Major

'Vote-rigging' scandal stuns Tory flagship

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT, TONY DAWE AND NICHOLAS WOOD

■ Fallout from an auditor's report accusing a flagship Tory council of gerrymandering will have serious effects on John Major's back-to-basics message

JOHN Major's Government plunged deeper into the mire yesterday as an independent auditor accused the Conservative flagship council in Westminster of a "disgraceful, unlawful and improper" £21 million vote-rigging scandal.

Dame Shirley Porter, the former council leader, five other councillors and four officials are accused of "wilful misconduct" in engaging in gerrymandering to lure Tory voters into eight marginal wards through their council house sale policy.

John Magill, the senior partner of Touche Ross who conducted a four-year investigation into the council, says in his provisional report that the ten, including the Conservative backbench MP Barry Legg, should have to repay the £21 million. Both Dame Shirley, who is abroad, and Mr Legg vowed last night to fight the findings tooth and nail.

The ferocity of Mr Magill's report stunned the city council and left Labour politicians overjoyed at the latest bitter blow to a Conservative Government already reeling from a succession of sexual and financial scandals. Jack Straw, the shadow environment secretary, said: "This report discloses political corruption and gerrymandering on a scale unknown in Britain. It is the stuff of banana republics. It shows that the Tory party is rotten and amoral to the core."

In the Commons, there were rowdy scenes as John Smith demanded that the Prime Minister condemn "a devastating example of financial corruption and the abuse of power by senior members of the Conservative party". Tory MPs publicly rallied to John Major, taunting the Opposition with allegations of corruption in Labour authorities. But privately they were appalled at the latest misfortune to befall the seemingly accident-prone administration.

The Prime Minister deflected part of Mr Smith's thrust by emphasising that the summary released by Mr Magill yesterday was only a provisional finding. "If the allegations are confirmed, I condemn it unreservedly," he said. But he emphasised that a lengthy legal process was only now beginning and in Britain, people were considered innocent until proven guilty.

The 11-page document published yesterday was a summary of Mr Magill's £1 million investigation into the housing policy instituted by the council in 1987. Mr Magill took an eleventh hour decision on Monday, following legal advice, not to publish the full 700-page report with its 10,000 supporting documents, and that has been issued only to the councillors and officials concerned, the council itself and six people whose objections to the housing policy led to the investigation.

That report spells out the difficulties Mr Magill faced in his enquiries, including the shredding of documents, the loss of paperwork and a lack of co-operation from interviewees. He used private detectives to find one witness and mounted a raid on the council offices to find important documents.



Porter: accused of "wilful misconduct"

At the heart of his investigation was a policy introduced after the Conservatives' poor showing in the 1986 local elections. Objectors claimed it was designed to increase the number of Tory voters in key wards. Nearly ten thousand homes in eight "battle zone" wards were designated for sale and existing tenants were encouraged to relinquish their homes by offers of a £15,000 grant towards the purchase of a non-council house.

The unpublished report says the policy was conceived in a series of meetings at which leading figures, led by Dame Shirley, expressed concern that housing policy should assist councillors in keeping political control.

Mr Magill concludes in his summary: "It appears to me, as a provisional view, that the decisions of the housing committee on 8 July, 1987 to increase designated sales by 500 per annum and to institute a scheme of capital grants were unlawful, unauthorised, and to the detriment of the interest of local taxpayers."

In his unpublished report, Mr Magill traces the shift of language used to describe the policy by 1990, which he believes cloaked its real intention. "Euphemisms, such as 'more electors' and 'new residents' were adopted to disguise the underlying purpose of designated sales, namely to secure electoral advantage for the Conservative party in the eight key/marginal wards.

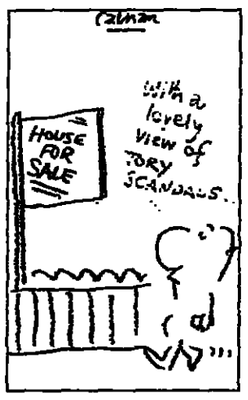
"I am strengthened in this provisional view by the differences between the confidential documents being presented to, and considered by, leading members and documents prepared for a wider audience, such as those prepared for committees of the council. Nowhere do non-confidential documents refer to the existence of the 'new residents' targets or to the identification of eight wards as 'key'. The inference that I draw from this is that there was indeed a 'hidden agenda' to secure electoral advantage for the Conservative party."

Mr Magill has now asked for written representations on his findings to be sent to him by July 24 and that requests for an oral hearing be made by the end of next month.

The publication of the summary is the end only of a chapter in a saga that seems certain to end in the House of Lords, and it could be two or three years before the matter is settled.

The timing is critical because if Mr Legg were surcharged and unable to repay the debt, he would have

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TONY WHITE



Miss Keays at the "Can the Family be Saved?" conference: "Deplorable to be lectured by political leaders"

Sara Keays attacks hypocrisy of back to basics as 'sick joke'

BY JILL SHERMAN AND LUCY BERRINGTON

SARA Keays, the former lover of Lord Parkinson, yesterday added to Tory embarrasment over back to basics by dismissing the Prime Minister's campaign as a "sick joke".

Her comments came as John Major was forced to clarify his beleaguered strategy at Cabinet yesterday, when ministers argued for 30 minutes about a more precise definition of the policy which was then collectively agreed by the full Cabinet. It was also agreed that the Government should not lay down hard and fast rules about the private lives of individual ministers. "It depends on the climate and individual circumstances," one minister said. Later the Prime Minister came under tough questioning from backbenchers at a meeting of the executive of the 1922 Committee in the wake of the recent series of political scandals.

At a conference on family values, Miss Keays expressed her relief that the Government was at last being called to account over the gulf between the private behaviour and the public pronouncements of its ministers. "Society is not under threat from single mothers and children, but it is under threat from the hypocrisy which is the hallmark of this Government and which pervades the press," she told the conference in London. "It is deplorable to be lectured by political leaders who persuade us to vote for them and then expect us to put up with them when we find out they are living a lie. I do not think they recognise what a sick joke it is becoming for them to refer to themselves as honourable and right honourable." Those trying to teach moral values faced the problem that "virtually everything they say is undermined by the Conservative Party."

She sounded, in short, very human, very liberal, and very hurt...

Libby Purves on Sara Keays, page 14

Miss Keays, 46, who recently faced a court injunction preventing debate about her daughter after a dispute about maintenance payments, said the Government's line on single parents was dangerous and wicked. Single parents were being targeted as the scapegoat for the Government's failures. "It's the sort of thing that was deplored when Hitler did it."

There was better news for Mr Major from the 1922 Committee. Sir Marcus Fox, committee chairman, said that the Prime Minister was a careful listener and acted on the advice he was given — a hint that Mr Major had been urged to deal more ruthlessly with errant ministers. Sir Marcus was keen to put on a public show of unity and said the back-to-basics policy had the executive's full support.

Today four ministers will spread the new message that back to basics is not a "moral crusade" but it does have a "moral dimension". The new definition, designed to unite both sides of the party, will be highlighted by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, supported by addresses from David Hunt, Michael Portillo and Michael Howard.

Cabinet ministers from the liberal wing of the party have been keen to ensure that ministers "sing from the same hymn sheet" over a strategy which is set to dominate the rest of this Parliament. They have been concerned that right-wing ministers such as Peter Lilley, Michael Howard and John Redwood hijacked the theme at last year's party conference to moralise about single parents.

The Prime Minister had been resisting calls for a collective discussion on the policy to avoid headlines of "crisis Cabinet", and it was clear that yesterday's discussion had been initiated not by Mr Major but by ministers. It was also disclosed that a question-and-answer briefing note on back to basics is being prepared to ensure that ministers were fully up-to-date on the policy.

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Isle of Wight coastline slipping into sea

BY EDWARD GORMAN

SEVERE landslips on the Isle of Wight, triggered by weeks of heavy rain, have destroyed homes, closed roads, wiped out sections of coastal path and blocked access to beaches.

Paul Richardson, the county surveyor, said yesterday that tens of thousands of tons of earth and rock were on the move. At Blackgang Chine, near Ventnor, on the island's south coast, he saw a slip of several inches in a single hour.

The slip, which left a group of hippies marooned but refusing to move, has turned the area into what a local surveyor called "a pudding of moving soil". The third big land movement at Blackgang since 1928, it began in earnest on Wednesday night and by yesterday had consigned two homes and four cars to oblivion, as well as a 600-yard stretch of coastal path.

About a dozen houses have been evacuated, and engineers, coastguards and police officers were standing by last night as further rain and heavy seas threatened more destruction today.

The thousands of tons of rocks and soil that are creeping into the sea at about an inch an hour, have left nine hippies at the South View Holiday Centre effectively cut off after the road fell away.

South Wight Borough Council has advised the group to leave the area immediately, fearing they could be swept away, but yesterday they were showing no signs of accepting

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Ciampi offers to resign

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

CARLO Azeglio Ciampi, the Italian Prime Minister, offered his resignation to the President yesterday, clearing the way for spring general elections which are expected to launch the country into a new political era throwing off its corrupt political past.

President Scalfaro reserved his decision on whether to accept the resignation of the former central bank governor after parliament debated a motion of no confidence in the eight-month-old government that was conceived as an interim administration to pass pressing reformsPage 10

Yeltsin tells Clinton drive for reform will be boosted

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S leader guaranteed President Clinton yesterday that he would not only continue with economic reform but step up the programme despite last month's poll reverses.

Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, said on the first day of the Moscow summit meeting that President Yeltsin and his officials had pledged "an unstinting commitment to the reform process, indeed an intensification of the reform process." Today the camaraderie will continue with an announcement that the two will no longer aim missiles at each other.

Mr Clinton offered no new aid package, but he and Mr Yeltsin discussed how assistance programmes could be accelerated and better targeted to cushion the social pains of reform that fuelled the success of Communist and ultra-nationalist candidates in the parliamentary elections.

"President Clinton promised that as long as Russia keeps reforming, we'll work with the G7 [Group of Seven leading industrialised nations], the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank to get that support as rapidly to them as possible," said Lloyd Bentsen, the Treasury Secretary. Of a $28 billion (£18.8 billion) programme agreed at last July's G7 Tokyo summit, barely $3 billion has been disbursed because of Russia's inability to meet IMF conditions.

The two men will also sign an agreement with President Kravchuk of Ukraine today to on dismantling Kiev's nuclear arsenal.

Mr Christopher said Mr Yelsin responded "very positively" to a Nato plan offering military co-operation to former Warsaw Pact states.

Cautious Clinton, page 10
Letters, page 15

1,000 more banking jobs to go

BY PATRICIA TEHAN BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE jobs woe in the financial services industry continued yesterday as TSB, the banking group, said about 1,000 jobs are likely to disappear this year, and Guardian Royal Exchange, the insurer, said 270 jobs have gone from its Lytham St Anne's and Edinburgh centres.

On Monday Barclays Bank announced that it planned to shed another 3,000 jobs above its 18,000 target before the end of 1995. On Wednesday National Westminster Bank disclosed plans to cut 4,200 jobs from its high street branches this year .....Page 21

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Major rejects Adams call to clarify peace accord

BY NICHOLAS WATT AND ROBERT MORGAN

THE Government will not bow to Sinn Fein demands for clarification of the Anglo-Irish Declaration, the Prime Minister said yesterday, as it emerged that Dublin has agreed to respond to some of the concerns raised by the republican movement.

An Irish government spokesman said that officials had been getting a regular feedback of opinion from sections of the republican movement. A senior member of the governing Fianna Fail party went further by saying that government officials had been taking soundings from Sinn Fein.

Dermot Ahern, joint chairman of the British Irish Interparliamentary Group, told BBC radio: "There may not be direct negotiations between ministers and Sinn Fein but there definitely is some official contact. This is part and parcel of negotiations and discussions that would take place in the hope that we would get some peace."

John Major told the Commons during Prime Minister's questions that talks could start within three months of the end of violence. However, Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein leader, had to answer one question: "Will you stop the violence and enter the democratic process or not? Everything else is fudge."

Mr Major said that Mr Adams was seeking "bit by bit" to draw the Government into talks over the declaration signed last month by Mr Major and Albert Reynolds, the Irish prime minister.

Mr Adams wrote to Mr Major last week seeking more details about the declaration after an article by Mr Major had appeared in a Belfast newspaper. There has so far been no response to it. Mr Major's statement yesterday was being interpreted last night as the nub of his reply. Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, may be asked to make the formal response.

Mr Major said: "As Mr Reynolds and I have made clear on a number of occasions, the joint declaration is not an invitation for renegotiation. We still await a positive response from the IRA."

His comments came after Dick Spring, the Irish deputy prime minister, denied a report in yesterday's *Irish Times* that officials would be meeting senior members of Sinn Fein to clarify the document. However, observers believe that Dublin is so concerned about the fragility of the peace initiative that they are keen to maintain the momentum by clarifying the document for Sinn Fein.

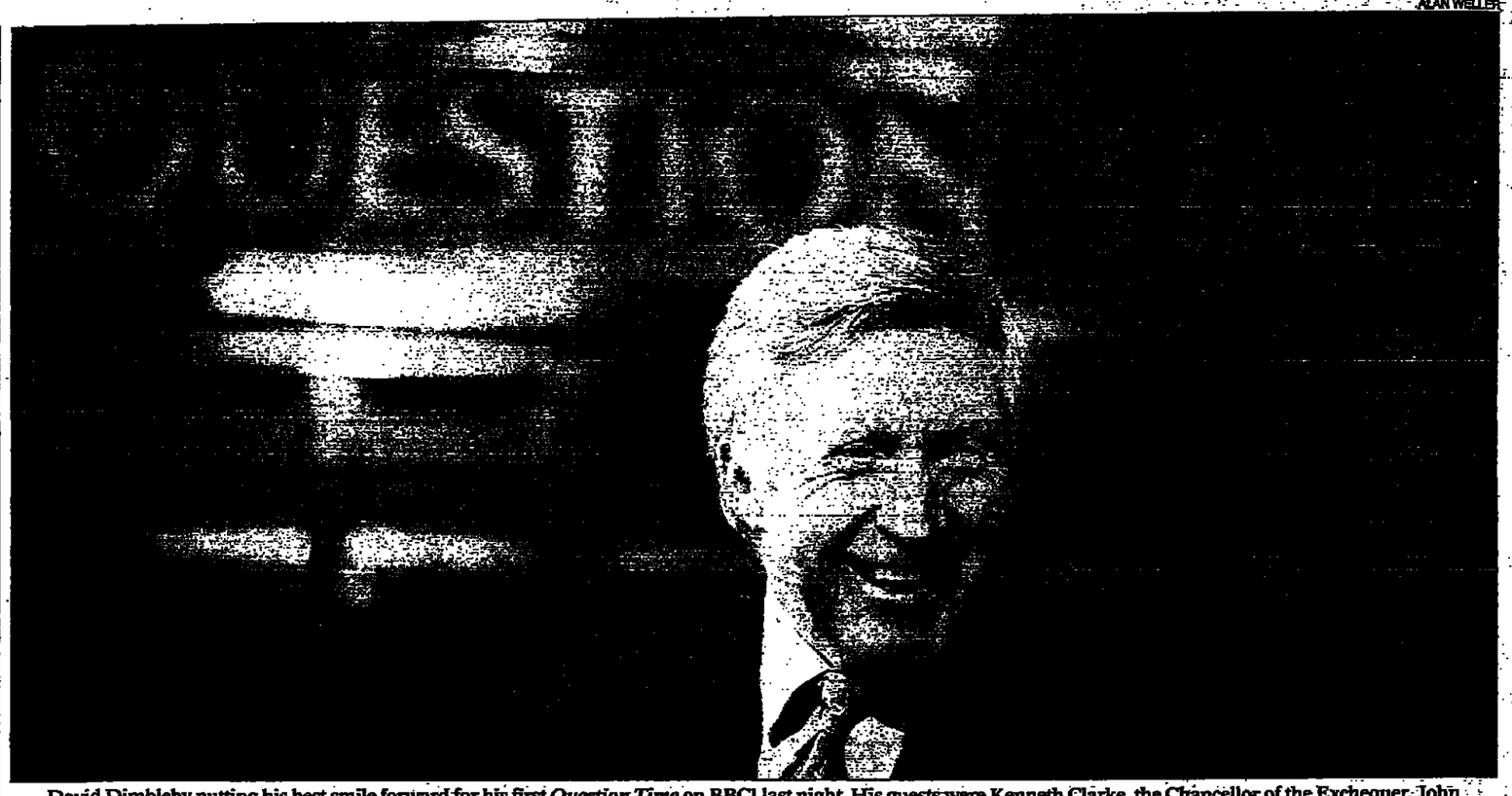
Mr Ahern underlined this concern when he said: "Unfortunately the situation seems to have got into a bit of a log jam ... The situation will get more pessimistic by the day if this continues. I would appeal to all sides to be less intransigent."

Mr Adams yesterday indicated the difficulties that lie ahead when he said that the declaration was too weak for him to ask the IRA to end its violence. In a lengthy statement, he said: "One has to ask, does anyone really expect the IRA to cease its activities so that British civil servants can discuss with Sinn Fein the surrender of IRA weapons? Anyone who wants me to put this proposition to the IRA has little real interest in developing the peace process."

He blamed Mr Major for the stalemate and accused the Prime Minister of trying to provoke the IRA into rejecting the declaration. Mr Adams also rejected claims that the republican struggle was ineffective and called for direct talks with the Government to clarify the declaration.

☐ A 21-year-old military policewoman shot by an IRA gunman in Belfast on Wednesday is still in intensive care after five hours of surgery. Her mother and father have flown to Belfast from England to be at her bedside. The unarmed soldier was shot in the face, back and hand.

ALAN WELLER



David Dimbleby putting his best smile forward for his first *Question Time* on BBC1 last night. His guests were Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, John Prescott, the shadow employment secretary, Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, and Dr Ann Robinson, head of the policy unit of the Institute of Directors

Doctors call for lower gay sex age limit

BY A STAFF REPORTER

DOCTORS' leaders voted overwhelmingly yesterday to support lowering the age of consent for homosexual men from 21 to 16.

The council of the British Medical Association gave its backing after hearing evidence that unsafe sexual behaviour and HIV infection had increased among homosexual men after a period of decline. The rise was greatest for young men.

Dr Sandy Macara, BMA chairman, said they were deterred from seeking advice from doctors because their activity was criminal. "I'm not concerned by whether people find the idea abhorrent. All the evidence shows that lowering the age of consent could remove this barrier."

The average age for a homosexual man's first sexual encounter was 15.7 years and changing the law was "unlikely to affect this".

Prime Minister declines to praise enquiry judge

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major twice declined yesterday to express "full confidence" in Lord Justice Scott in the wake of Lord Howe of Aberavon's broadside at the man conducting the independent judical enquiry into the arms-to-Iraq affair.

Striving to avoid being dragged into yet another controversy, the Prime Minister restricted himself to saying that he had "no adverse comments" to make about the fairness of Lord Justice Scott's handling of the investigation into a possible breach of ministerial guidelines on the sale of arms-related equipment to President Saddam Hussein's regime.

Mr Major, who will appear before the enquiry to give his evidence on Monday, added that the Government had given the judge "the freedom to pursue it as he thinks fit".

Earlier, his officials had indicated that although the procedures were a matter for Lord Justice Scott, the Government had its reservations about aspects of his approach.

Friends of Lord Howe, a former Foreign Secretary, have told *The Times* that he has been privately critical of the judge's approach for some time.

Lord Howe has also said that his views were shared by "dozens of people" in government circles. He has not named them but they are believed to include William Waldegrave, the Foreign Office minister during the period under scrutiny, who was given a rough ride by the enquiry.

Lord Howe strongly denied that he was "doing the government's dirty work" and trying to help the prime minister, an allegation made by John Smith, the Labour Leader.

Mr Major does not appear to be among Lord Justice Scott's foremost ministerial critics. The indications from his officials are that he has had little time recently to dwell on the manner or course of the enquiry.

Gerald Kaufman, the former shadow foreign secretary, asked the Prime Minister at question time to "express your full confidence that Lord Justice Scott is conducting the enquiry fairly, and that you yourself are confident that you will be treated fairly by Lord Justice Scott". Mr Kaufman added: "Will you repudiate the scurrilous attack on Lord Justice Scott by Lord Howe?"

Mr Major said: "The Government appointed Lord Justice Scott to conduct an independent enquiry. I believe it is therefore for him to draw up his own procedures, and it is not a matter for the Government to comment on those procedures. I have no adverse comments to make upon them."

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Politics, page 7

Bottomley ends NHS secrecy on salaries

An end to "cosy deals" on pay for NHS managers was announced yesterday by Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, who said it was vital that public service values were kept at the heart of the health service. Responding to concern over financial scandals in West Midlands and Wessex health authorities, Mrs Bottomley said that NHS trusts would have to publish the salaries of directors under new codes of conduct and accountability.

She rejected pay ceilings as imposing "stultifying and deadening interference" of the freedoms that trusts operated under, but said salaries must be properly considered and debated, publicly defensible and open to challenge. "The public have a right to expect that the values enshrined in the NHS since its foundation continue to flourish and that standards of probity are uniformly high," she said.

CrossRail study rejected

John MacGregor, the Transport Secretary, has rejected a report that says the £2.5 billion CrossRail project in London is not financially feasible. Mr MacGregor is battling with the Treasury to protect the Paddington-Liverpool Street link and is expected to make a last-ditch appeal at next Thursday's Cabinet. A decision has to be made before the committee stage of a Bill on CrossRail reconvenes on January 25. Engineers from Bovis and Sir Alexander Gibbs and Partners are said to conclude that the scheme is not feasible if it has be financed mainly by the private sector.

Cocaine smuggler jailed

Joseph Kassar, head of the UK end of an international drugs ring, was jailed for 24 years for smuggling Columbian cocaine worth about £150 million, a crime that the judge said meant "utter degradation and perhaps death for thousands". Rejecting defence pleas that key figures in the plot were given only 14 years in The Netherlands, Mr Justice May told Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court that Kassar, 42, formerly of Cheadle, Manchester, would have been jailed for longer had he been among the top tier. The court was told he benefited by £310,070, of which only £8,850 could be confiscated.

Ethnic roots revealed

More than 60 per cent of the 4 million British residents born outside Britain are white and the largest single group comes from the Irish Republic, according to research on the 1991 census at Warwick University. There are more than 500,000 residents from Ireland, but the number has fallen by 12 per cent between 1981 and 1991. The second largest group is from India, totalling 409,000, followed by Northern Ireland at 244,000 and Pakistan with 234,000. There has been a 36 per cent increase in the number of French residents of Britain.

Joy for parents at last

Gina Salmon, 26, and Mark Dowdall, 33, are celebrating the birth of a healthy baby after losing their first two children to one of the world's rarest syndromes. Amy, who weighed 7lb 11oz at a Liverpool hospital, ended three years of anguish. They are the only couple known to have lost two babies to Pallister-Hall syndrome, which affects the lungs and digestive system. Doctors had estimated the odds of Amy suffering from it at only four to one.

'Vote-rigging' scandal stuns Tory flagship

Continued from page 1

to declare himself bankrupt and resign his Milton Keynes seat. Liberal Democrats called yesterday for him to stand down straight away, but Mr Legg issued a statement saying: "I utterly refute any suggestion of impropriety."

Representatives of Dame Shirley, too, issued a statement yesterday rejecting the allegations. A spokesman said that she had received legal advice that the auditor's provisional view was "neither accurate in law nor in fact. A leading firm of accountants have also advised her that Mr Magill's views about alleged losses are equally wrong and misconceived." Dame Shirley, who has retained Anthony Scrivener QC, is not expected to return to Britain for the forseeable future.

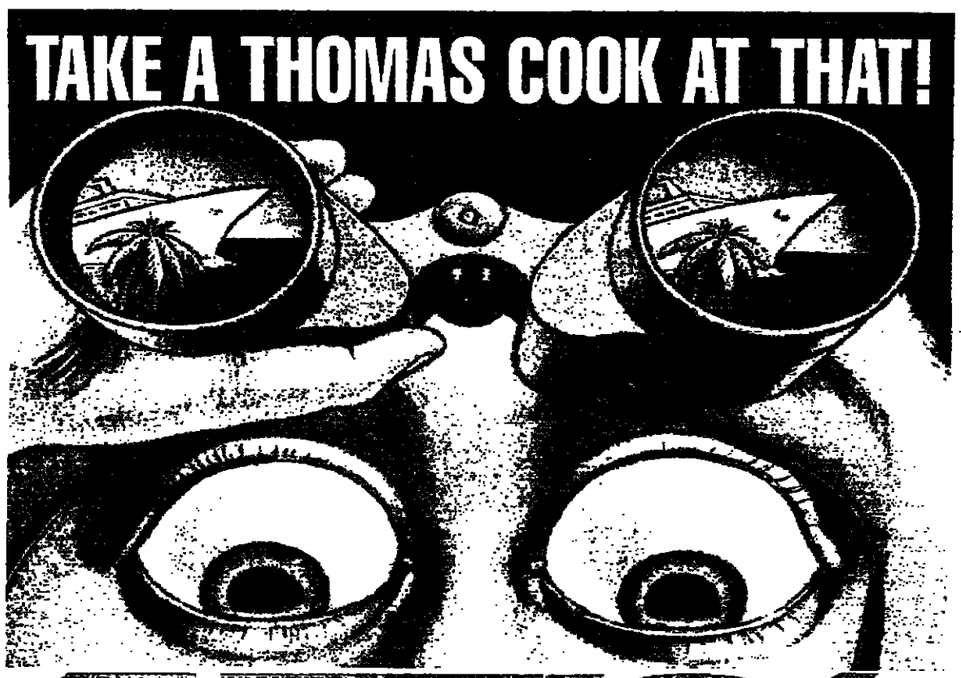
Westminster's present leader, Miles Young rejected Mr Magill's accusations of gerrymandering and described the furore over the "Kafkaesque" report as a "element of local difficulty". He said the housing sales policy was highly popular and successful and said it would continue for the time being.

In the Lords the Earl of Arran, a junior environment minister, said he thought that would be extremely unwise. He also defended the district auditor's actions in publishing his summary. He was responding to the former Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St. Marylebone, who had asked: "What would one think of a judge who, halfway through a case, said he was minded to find the accused guilty but that the accused would have the opportunity of making his defence."

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Suffolk Woman is a moral minority

BY PETER RIDDELL

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

There is no Moral Majority in Britain. Much nonsense has been said and written in the past ten days about public attitudes towards the behaviour of ministers and MPs. Suffolk Woman undoubtedly exists, but that does not mean voters expect politicians to be saints. For most people, the real sin is not adultery but hypocrisy.

A MORI poll for *The Sun* and a Harris Research poll for *News at Ten*, both taken earlier this week, suggest that public hostility is aimed mainly at MPs who say one thing in public but behave differently in private.

The Harris poll shows that the public is evenly split about whether ministers who commit adultery should resign. But the proportion backing resignation rises from 49 to 75 per cent if the minister has publicly spoken in support of "back to basics".

More than three fifths believe that the recent personal behaviour of some members of the Government is contrary to the Prime Minister's back-to-basics policy.

The public is more tolerant about the personal conduct of MPs where no law has been broken.

The MORI poll, which phrased its questions differently, shows that more than half the public believe that ministers who perform their jobs well should not resign if they commit a serious moral or financial indiscretion which is entirely private and not illegal.

More than half the public believe that ministers who commit adultery or who are practising homosexuals should not have to resign. More than three fifths think that ordinary MPs in that position should not be required to resign.

By contrast, by a margin nearly of two to one, people believe that ministers or other MPs convicted of drink-driving should have to resign. Nine out of ten people think that ministers or MPs engaged in financial sharp practice, which has made them rich by exploiting a weakness in the law, should resign.

Young people are much more tolerant than the middle-aged or elderly, according to MORI. Less than a fifth of 18 to 24-year-olds believe ministers who commit indiscretions which are private and not illegal should resign. This rises to 27 per cent among 25 to 34-year-olds, 45 per cent among 35 to 54-year-olds and up to 55 per cent for those over 55.

The young are also more tolerant on sexual matters. Less than a fifth of those aged under 34 believe a minister who is a practising homosexual should have to to resign, compared with well over two fifths of the 55-plus age group. The main exception is drink-driving, where slightly more of the young than the middle-aged believe a minister convicted of an offence should resign.

The young are also more sceptical about MPs' behaviour. Only a half of them, compared with over three quarters of the 35-plus group, believe the public is right to expect MPs to behave according to higher standards of moral behaviour and financial honesty than ordinary people.

The Prime Minister, however, has failed to define back to basics clearly enough. According to Harris, more than half the public believes that personal morality was a main part of the policy. MORI shows that nearly two thirds believe the campaign should include the personal morality of members of the public.

It will take a lot more than yesterday's agonising by the Cabinet and the 1922 committee executive, and today's promised barrage of ministerial speeches, for the policy to regain public credibility.

Council exposé, page 7
Peter Brookes, page 14

CORRECTION

A report on January 10 wrongly implied that Hillstone School, Malvern, no longer existed because its buildings were up for sale. In fact Hillstone moved to another site in 1992 to become the junior school of Malvern College, since when its pupil roll has increased significantly.

Motorway robbers flee with £1.5m in 'perfect crime'

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BOGUS motorway cones and a traffic sign were used by a gang of thieves yesterday to steal up to £1.5 million from a security lorry in a raid described by police as the perfect robbery.

Officers across the Home Counties and London were hunting last night for the robbers, who dumped empty money bags in a lay-bay about 50 miles from the ambush.

The robbery is one of the biggest recent raids and echoes the polished operations mounted by south London gangs throughout the 1970s and 1980s.

Det Chief Supt Ray Piper, head of Hampshire CID, said: "These men carried out the perfect robbery. The whole episode was carefully planned and expertly executed. It is clear that they'd gone to a great deal of trouble. Their timing was right, and they have done their best to cover every track. These people are clearly not your average criminal. This raid was devised with intelligence and guile. You don't need to carry out too many of these before you can retire."

The robbery began as the Security Express van headed towards the M271 outside Southampton before dawn yesterday. It had been loaded with a special consignment at the firm's regional depot at Nursling on the outskirts of the city.

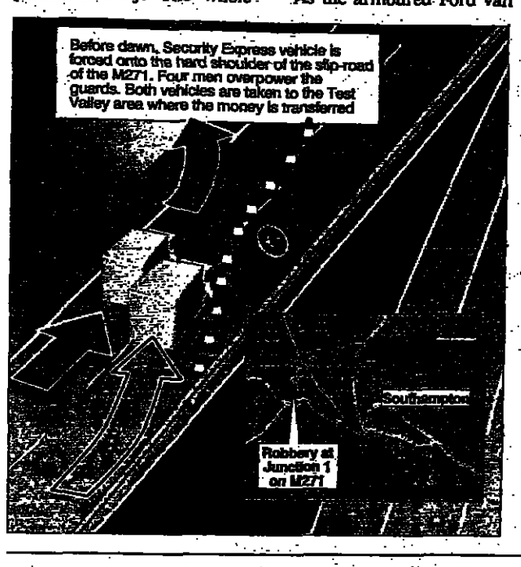
As the armoured Ford van with its crew of three reached a slip road on to the M271, they found traffic cones and a sign directing all traffic into the nearside lane. A white Ford Cargo truck which had been behind pulled alongside and in front, forcing the Security Express van to halt on hard shoulder. Police are investigating whether a second vehicle may have been used by the gang to box in the security van.

Four men, three of them masked, jumped down from the white truck, shouting that the crew would be shot unless the guards unlocked the doors. No gun was shown, but the shocked crew opened up.

One of the crew was locked in the back and another handcuffed. The unmasked robber took the wheel and followed the other lorry north along the M271 and over the M27.

After a four-mile drive, the gang stopped on a council tip. They threatened to shoot the employees again and bundled them into the back of the Security Express van where they were bound, gagged and handcuffed. The robbers pulled a black tarpaulin over the Security Express vehicle to prevent identification from the air, then spent 20 minutes transferring the cash bags to their truck.

It was an hour after they had sped off in the white van before the guards could struggle free and raise the alarm. As police began the hunt for the raiders, a motorist stopping in a lay-by on the A272 at Billingshurst, West Sussex, discovered 36 empty money bags.



JULIAN HERBERT



A policeman standing guard beside cars that narrowly escaped damage at Blackgang. Victims of the last serious slip, in 1978, included a nudist camp

Storms plunder smugglers' coves

BY HUGH NOYES

FOR centuries the south coast of the Isle of Wight has been breaking away and sliding into the sea. This most romantic and rugged of coastlines has been immortalised by poets and artists. Tennyson, Turner, Dickens, Keats and Swinburne are among the famous names whose work has been inspired by the landscape, and who visited the towering cliffs, many of which are on the move once again.

The stretch of coast known as The Undercliff was a haunt of smugglers. The Victorians came here in their thousands because of the health-giving properties of the climate. Queen Victoria visited The Undercliff on many occasions as did Queen Mary, grandmother of our present Queen.

In the past 48 hours, the endless torrential rain has produced yet another stage of the gradual and apparently inevitable slide towards the seabed. The main cause of the erosion is a type of clay known locally as blue slipper. This has brought about severe landslides during the past 200 years, particularly at the two extremities of The Undercliff — Luccombe in the east and Blackgang in the west.

The last great slide was in 1978 at Blackgang, when several houses and a nudist camp slid hundreds of feet down the cliff. Roads in the area were broken up as though by an earthquake. There was so little warning that residents and household belongings had to be rescued by helicopter.

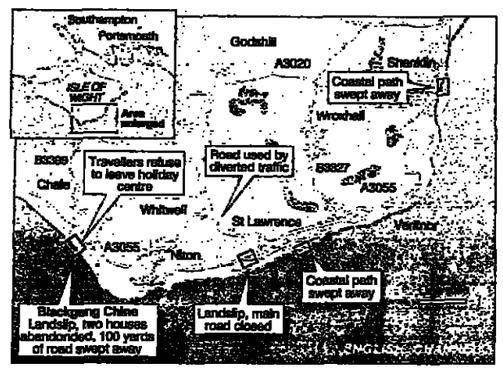
Early reports of the latest slides indicate that more far-reaching movements are involved as houses and roads in the central Undercliff are also on the move.

One of the results of these collapses is that a vast dinosaur graveyard is being disclosed. As the cliffs fall away, huge bones and skeletons many millions of years old are coming to light.

In response to the problems, South Wight Borough Council has produced a comprehensive coastal management plan which acknowledges that the coast consists of a complex landslide system of massive, multiple blocks of chalk, Greensand and Gault (blue slipper) clay. This is mainly the result of the last Ice Age, which formed the dramatic scenery of The Undercliff.

The Isle Of Wight has the distinction of being England's smallest county. After the events of the past few days, it may be even smaller.

Forecast, page 20



Isle of Wight slipping away

Continued from page 1

that advice. "We love it here, we have got tremendous wildlife — badgers, foxes and lovely flowers," Caroline Wood, a resident at South View, said. "We don't want to leave it." Michael Walters, 27, one of her companions, was equally defiant. "It's pretty muddy," he said, "but that's all. [The building] is not moving and nor am I."

The landslip has created scenes reminiscent of a small earthquake, with foot-wide splits opening up in the road and trees being gradually uprooted on the hillside.

The Rev John Russell, Rector of Chale, said: "Bits of my parish keep falling into the sea. I will be praying for them." Robin McInnes, the borough surveyor, estimates that the cliffline in one part of Blackgang has receded by more than 150 yards over the past century.

Forecast, page 20

Actress in A1 libel case 'had to take a stand'

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE soap actress Gillian Taylforth told the High Court yesterday that the libel action she has launched over allegations in *The Sun* that police caught her performing a sex act on her fiancé on an A1 slip road had put a heavy strain on their relationship.

Miss Taylforth, 38, who appears in the BBC series *EastEnders*, said the action was emotionally and financially draining but that she had to take a stand against the lies about her personal life.

She denied concealing the truth. "It's an insult to say that just because I am an actress, I am a liar. I am a human being. I am flesh and blood."

Her fiancé, Geoffrey Knights, 39, a business consultant, said that when he signed a police caution admitting to indecency by the roadside he was drunk and did not realise what he was doing. The court was told that his solicitors were filing a complaint to the Police Complaints Authority about him being asked to sign while under the influence of drink.

The couple, from Highbury, north London, are suing News Group Newspapers, publisher of *The Sun*, for "serious, scurrilous and unwarranted attacks against their characters and reputations".

They are said to be outraged about a story in June 1992 in which *The Sun* said police had caught them having oral sex. They claim they had stopped for Mr Knights to be sick during a pancreatitis attack and he had loosened his trousers to relieve the pain.

News Group denies libel, claiming the story was true, but says that if it was untrue *The Sun* got its information from the Metropolitan Police, who would thus be responsible.

Miss Taylforth angrily denied a suggestion by George Carman QC, for the defendants, that her version of events was a sham. She said: "How can anyone think you would stop on the A1 to have oral sex with cars and all the traffic going by?" Mr Carman said that if Miss Taylforth's story about the pancreatitis attack, which could have had fatal consequences, were true, she would have got him medical help.

She said that she and Mr Knights did not realise until months later the legal implications of the caution which he signed. "We didn't understand it meant admitting the offence. We thought it was just a slap on the wrist for using abusive language to the police.

"The proceedings we are taking now haven't been a light thing to us. You have to make a stand."

Mr Knights, who has a two-year-old daughter by Miss Taylforth, denied a suggestion by Mr Carman that he had spent nights at two north London flats with a 23-year-old former hairdresser called Dora. He said the woman had worked for his firm, and he knew her simply as a friend.

The case continues today.

Royal guest crashed car after Linley reception

A CLOSE friend of the Prince of Wales failed to give a breath specimen when he crashed his car after Viscount Linley's wedding reception, a court was told yesterday.

Captain Ian Farquhar, 47, former equerry to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, was said to be unsteady on his feet and talking "in a drunken state" after the reception last October. He denies failing to provide a specimen of breath.

Capt Farquhar, of Tormarton, Avon, was put in a cell to make sure he would be sober enough to understand the charge to be made against him, Bow Street Magistrates Court, central London, was told.

He had been stopped by police when his car hit railings on the way out of a car park at Clarence House, the Queen Mother's residence, it was said.

PC Peter Richards, of the Royal Parks Police, said that when the captain tried to follow a car driven by his wife, Pammie Jane Farquhar, through a gap between two fences, his vehicle collided with a fence, damaging one of the car's lights. The officer stopped Capt Farquhar in Stable Yard Road.

PC Richards said the captain gave a positive breath test and was arrested for driving while unfit through drink or drugs. When PC Richards cautioned him, Capt Farquhar replied: "I've been to the wedding."

The officer said that when Capt Parquhar tried to give a breath specimen at Charing Cross police station, he made four attempts and failed. "He was unsteady on his feet, kept talking and asking the same questions again and again. He blew in a feeble fashion."

The officer who conducted the test, Sergeant Stephen Shearing, said Capt Farquhar managed to give one breath specimen at the police station but not the required second. He was placed in a cell "until I considered he was sober enough to fully understand the charge that was shortly to be made against him".

The hearing was adjourned until February 11.

Aids man jailed for biting

AN AIDS sufferer who bit a pub landlord was jailed for six years yesterday. James Moore, 37, of Lincoln, sank his teeth into Wayne Hobbs's hand after he was asked to leave at closing time.

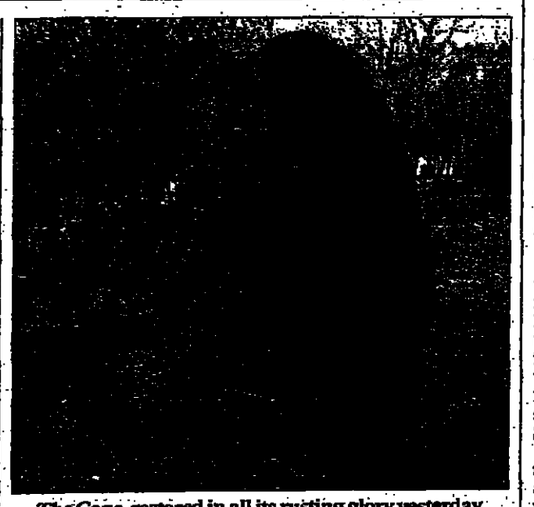
Jailing him at Lincoln Crown Court, Judge Dudley Bennett said: "I am sure that at the time your intention was to pass on some of the frustration you feel by passing on the disease you have."

Jonathan Dee, for the prosecution, told the court the attack in July last year happened after staff asked Moore to leave the Prince of Wales pub in Bailgate, Lincoln.

He became abusive and dug his nails into the landlady's hands, screaming that he had Aids. When he began threatening customers, Mr Hobbs tried to intervene. Moore went berserk and bit the landlord's hand.

Mr Hobbs, 37, had to undergo intensive hospital treatment after the attack. But doctors are now 99 per cent sure he has not been infected with HIV.

Moore pleaded guilty to assault occasioning actual bodily harm and to unlawful wounding. In mitigation, John Deave said the chance of transmitting the disease through a bite was remote. Moore had suffered from depression since the onset of the disease and felt he had been rejected by society, he said.



The Cone, restored in all its rusting glory yesterday

Artless thieves caught

BY A STAFF REPORTER

TWO thieves with few artistic feelings could scarcely believe their luck when they stumbled across a pile of rusting metal ten feet high. They assumed it was scrap and began to load it on to a lorry.

They discovered only after being arrested that it was in fact a piece of modern art worth £34,000 by the internationally acclaimed sculptor Andy Goldsworthy, Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court was told.

The work, entitled *The Cone* and formed from circles of steel in the shape of a pine cone, had been allowed to rust to blend in with the scenery at the Riverside Park, Gateshead. Peter Widdrington, aged 27, of Gateshead, and William Loder, aged 26, of Newcastle, admitted theft and were bailed for reports.

Patrick Cosgrove, for the defence, told the court: "Just looking at photographs of the sculpture, it is difficult to imagine that it was worth so much." Judge James Stephenson replied: "I don't suppose Donatello's *David* is worth all that much as scrap."

A spokeswoman for Gateshead council said the work has been rebuilt, adding: "Some people just don't have an artistic bone in their body."

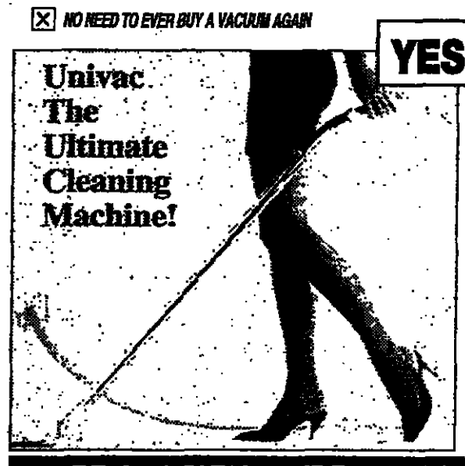
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Specialist calls for enquiry after patients' lives are disrupted by professional complacency

Doctors' mistakes damage women with breast cancer

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN with breast cancer are receiving poor treatment and risk severe side-effects because doctors in some hospitals are failing to follow agreed guidelines.

A leading cancer specialist today calls for an independent enquiry into claims by more than 1,000 women who have suffered damage to their shoulder nerves from radiotherapy that has left them with a useless arm.

Professor Karol Sikora, professor of clinical oncology at Hammersmith hospital, west London, says in the *British Medical Journal* that the injury has disrupted lives, costing some women their career and others their marriage. Wide variations among hospitals in the radiotherapy techniques used to treat patients cannot be justified and could be responsible for the injuries, he says. Urgent action is necessary to end "the professional complacency some have shown so far".

In a separate *BMJ* paper, researchers say guidelines for the treatment of breast cancer published in 1986 were still being widely ignored by doctors four years later. A study of 417 women diagnosed with breast cancer in the Thames health regions in early 1990 found that patients of the same age and severity of cancer had widely varying treatments.

Only one in four of the patients had the severity of their cancer properly assessed, although this was essential to provide the best treatment. Only six out of ten premenopausal women with evidence that the disease had spread received the recommended chemotherapy.

Dr Janine Bell, deputy director of the Thames Cancer Registry and an author of the study published in the *BMJ*, said: "Women can have surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy and hormonal treatment [Tamoxifen] for breast cancer. Most get surgery — that is fairly standard — but what else they get is very variable."

Professor Sikora says patients who suffered injuries to their arms as a result of radiotherapy, estimated at 1 to 4 per cent of those treated, have in some cases had them amputated because of persistent pain.

Details of more than 1,000 cases obtained by the pressure group Radiation Action Group Exposure (Rage) have revealed alarming features, he says.

"Affected patients seem to be clustered at certain hospitals, suggesting technique is the problem. Members of Rage are angry at being dismissed as cranks and at being told that because their cancer is cured they are fortunate and should not complain. I have much sympathy with them. Their permanent injuries are in many cases extremely serious, disrupting their lives completely."

Professor Sikora says the cause may be overlap between fields of radiation applied to the breast and the underarm area. This would result in the brachial plexus, which contains all the nerves of the arm, receiving twice the normal dose of radiation.

Some hospitals give radiotherapy treatment in lower doses over 30 sessions and some give it in higher doses over 15 sessions. "Such variation does not make sense," he says. "Either one is using suboptimal treatment or the other is wasting resources."

BRIAN JUNG



Leslie Elliott at home with her children Jack, Nancy and Eve for whom she has taken "endless" photographs and written individual books

'Tomorrow is a luxury; no-one can say when I'll die'

BY OUR HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

LESLEY Elliott made three visits to her GP over six months before breast cancer was diagnosed. By then it was too late. The disease had spread, first to her lymph nodes and then to her lungs. Now, aged 34 and the mother of three young children, she is dying.

Mrs Elliott, who is married to a farmer and lives in Dorset, is preparing her family to cope when she is gone. "Nobody can say when I will die. We take each day as it comes. Tomorrow is a luxury," she said. She has written books for each of her children and taken "endless" photographs. "I look at them and see all that my children will see of me in years to come. What I do with the children today is their memory of me tomorrow. I have used the books to help the children through the difficult times."

Mrs Elliott says that twice GPs at her practice said that her breasts were normal when they were not. She assumed that she would be due for compensation for the delay in diagnosis but was told she had no case. One professor told her the law was unfair and there should be compensation for the loss of a chance. "What I find so difficult to live with now is the loss of that chance."

Writing in the *BMJ*, Mrs Elliott says that women are beginning to get angry about Britain's death rate from breast cancer, which is the highest in the world. "There seems to be a complacency among the medical profession towards breast cancer and a growing rage among its victims, particularly those women in their 20s, 30s and 40s, where no systematic screening programme is available," she says.

"If our only defence against the disease at present is early diagnosis and self-examination, it is not working. Women like me are slipping through the net and dying."

Throughout her illness Mrs Elliott has been raising money for Breakthrough Breast Cancer, 103 Kingsway, London WC2B 6QX. It is a campaign supported by all the cancer charities to establish a research centre in London. It has raised £6.5 million towards its target of £15 million.

Cattle are tested for Aids-like illness

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

SCIENTISTS are investigating what they think may be an Aids-like disease of cattle in Britain. Samples of blood from the sick animals are being tested for signs of a virus that is related to HIV, the cause of Aids in humans.

Experts on BIV (bovine immuno-deficiency virus) at the Institute for Animal Health in Berkshire were called in after a cattle herd from a farm in Cheshire developed breathing difficulties and other symptoms that resisted treatment.

Joe Brownlie, head of the institute's BIV research team, confirmed that tests had been run to detect the virus or its antibodies. "We are actively investigating," he said. "There are no confirmed results as yet. At this stage, it is more of a look-see exercise."

The Agriculture Ministry declined to disclose details of the disease on the farm or its exact whereabouts. Keith Meldrum, the Chief Veterinary Officer, said the animals were being tested for other viruses as well as BIV.

Scientists say they can see no threat from BIV to human health because lentiviruses (a group including BIV and HIV that is known to provoke slow-developing sickness in horses, goats, cats and sheep as well as humans) are highly specific to particular species.

BIV was isolated in the United States in the early 1970s, though initially given a different name. It was only in the mid-1980s that scientists noticed the similarity between BIV and HIV.

Car hurls WPC into air at road check

BY LIN JENKINS

A WOMAN police officer was seriously ill in hospital yesterday after she was struck by a car at a traffic check and thrown into the air.

Paula Mullins, 27, a probationary officer, was hit when a car ignored her signals to stop and drove straight at her on the Wybourn estate, Sheffield, where random checks had been instigated after complaints of joyriding. Police said that the car, which had not been stolen, was abandoned half a mile away.

WPC Mullins was conscious and receiving treatment for a fractured skull and broken leg in the Northern General Hospital, Sheffield, yesterday after being admitted on Wednesday night. She underwent a minor operation and her condition was described as comfortable.

Det Chief Supt Mick Burdis, head of South Yorkshire CID, said that WPC Mullins and PC Mick Allatt had stopped several cars. "They were both in uniform, wearing fluorescent jackets and carrying torches."

Police were interviewing two men yesterday.

Five weeks ago, a police officer was run down outside the Sheffield United ground. PC Ron Craggie, 43, is undergoing treatment for leg injuries. A youth aged 17 has been charged with attempted murder.

In Leicester, WPC Debbie Mummery, 31, who was seriously hurt after being knocked down and driven over, has been discharged from hospital. A 27-year-old man has been charged with her attempted murder.

Jilted wife wrecked police chief's car

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE wife of a senior police officer with special responsibilities for his colleagues' domestic problems wrecked his new car after he failed to repair his own marriage.

Christine Clarke, aged 48, used a lump hammer to smash every window and batter the body work of the new Vauxhall Cavalier in a police car park after her husband Robin, a chief inspector with the West Yorkshire force, snubbed her last attempt to save their 26-year marriage.

Magistrates at Leeds were told that Mrs Clarke, from Oulton, West Yorkshire, had been unaware of her 48-year-old husband's year-long affair with a woman 15 years his junior until five days before he walked out to set up home with his mistress.

Mrs Clarke admitted causing criminal damage valued at £2,756.22 to his car and was conditionally discharged for a year.

Ann Cousins, for the defence, said that Mrs Clarke and her two sons had attributed her husband's grumpy behaviour to the male menopause.

She went to his office at Holbeck police station in Leeds, where he worked as a personnel and welfare officer, on October 10. "She begged him to put some effort into their marriage, but he refused and effectively dismissed her," said Miss Cousins.

Mrs Clarke then took the hammer which she had bought earlier for the purpose and attacked his car.

"Mrs Clarke is a Christian woman who believes in the sanctity of marriage," said Miss Cousins.

Errol James, the presiding magistrate, did not order Mrs Clarke to pay compensation or the prosecution costs.

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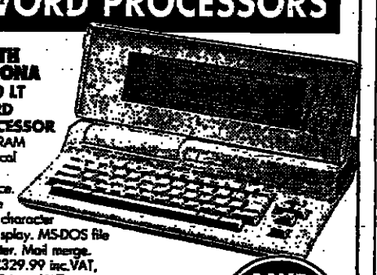
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Neelah Smith, who was jailed for false accounting, is to be released today

Archers tale echoes life for family devastated by jail

By Richard Duce

WHILE public debate continues over the jailing of a fictional mother in *The Archers* radio soap opera, Richard Smith and his two small children have been coping with the reality.

Mr Smith and his sons Robert, 7, and Mark, 4, have crossed off the days until this morning when they can be a family once again.

As a story of devastated domestic life, the case of Richard and Neelah Smith bears remarkable similarities to that of Neil and Susan Carter in the Radio 4 serial.

The fictional tale has led to a heated debate, some of it through the letters column of *The Times*, over the jailing of mothers with small children, but Mr Smith has quietly endured Christmas without his wife.

Richard, 39, a civil servant with the Department of Employment who has been looking after the boys while their mother is in prison, said last night: "The initial reaction when Neelah was jailed was total and utter shock. Then you survive day by day. The bottom obviously just falls out of your world."

Mrs Smith, 33, who had danced at Covent Garden until a knee injury, became a state registered nurse. She was jailed in September last year after admitting a "black economy" fraud involving staff at the old people's home she ran in Hunstanton, Norfolk. She had found that the only way to find staff was to pay them cash without making PAYE deductions.

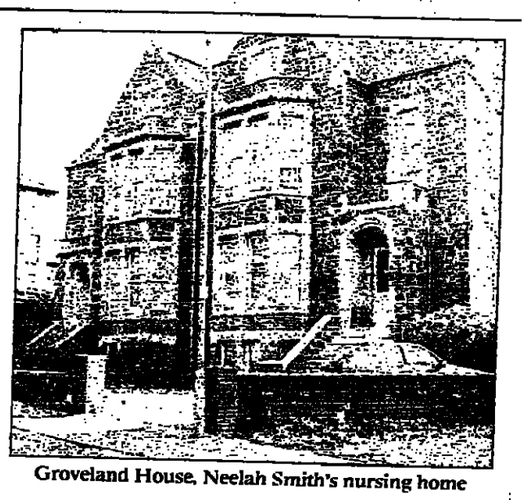
Mrs Smith was first jailed for 18 months, a sentence halved on appeal, but as she leaves Drake Hall prison in Staffordshire this morning she believes she has no need to be ashamed. Back at home today, she and her family can start to rebuild their lives, although they still face financial ruin.

Mr Smith said: "The youngest is frightened of the dark now and both have had nightmares. The youngest does not really understand what is going on, but I have told the eldest Mummy owes the Queen and the Government some money and has gone to work for them for a while."

Every day since September 1 when she was jailed by Judge Binns, the same judge who imprisoned two village vigilantes for five years, Mr Smith and his sons have marked off the dates on a calendar. Mr Smith has been grateful for the support of family and the small Norfolk community where he was born and bred.

"Yes, she was silly, but she didn't realise the enormity of it all. If we had our time again? You could sit and grow old thinking about that. We are proud to be a strong family unit. It is not like the grief of death. We lost our firstborn after four nights and you eventually come to terms with that, but this is the next worse thing.

"She will come out a different person, as I have learnt to be a different person. She is hurt and feels betrayed by the system, I think she is just very sad. There was every excuse to give Neelah community service: she didn't hurt anyone; she did things for what she thought was the right reason."



Groveland House, Neelah Smith's nursing home

Mr Smith says the Inland Revenue never tried to come to an agreement over repaying the £60,000 owed to it over five years, but pressed ahead with a prosecution. Their home, Groveland House, is now in the hands of the receiver, who will probably sell it.

"You hear about businessmen involved in multi-million pound frauds and they get suspended sentences. *The Archers* case highlights how naive we can be. People can't quite grasp the fact that you are a law-abiding citizen, you believe in right and wrong, and you then get that thrown back in your face. You get this furore over a fictional situation because people say it could not happen, but of course it can. It boils down to naivety and not being worldly wise. Neelah is now."

Michael Ward, of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation, said: "This misplaced use of imprisonment for non-violent offenders continues to damage families. Penalties like probation and community service provide a much better solution for society and keep families together."

Lovers released to stand trial again for lawn-mower plot

By Robin Young

A WOMAN and her lover jailed in 1991 for plotting to kill her husband by faking an accident with his ride-on lawn mower were freed by the Court of Appeal yesterday but must stand trial again.

The convictions of Susan Whybrow, 52, and Dennis Saunders, 57, were quashed after their lawyers complained that the judge at their trial, Mr Justice Ian Kennedy, had robbed them of a fair hearing by intervening during their evidence with hostility, sarcasm and "naked mockery".

They were released on bail pending a retrial at the Old Bailey. Mr Saunders, of Colchester, Essex, who had been a flying instructor, was ordered to surrender his flying licence.

He was jailed for ten years and Mrs Whybrow for eight years at Norwich Crown Court for conspiring to kill her husband, Christopher Whybrow, a wealthy barrister, so they could take control of his 12-acre estate at Leavenheath, Suffolk.

She admitted luring her husband into a trap with the promise of sexual intercourse on the floor of their £500,000 home in October 1989. Mr Saunders admitted attacking him from behind, gagging and blindfolding him and marching him into the garden.

The prosecution alleged that the couple planned to throw Mr Whybrow and the lawn mower into the duck pond, making it look like he had drowned after driving into it. But Mr Whybrow escaped and swam to safety.

The couple's defence was that they had intended to give him only a fright and a beating.

Yesterday Julian Bevan QC, for Mrs Whybrow, said that Mr Justice Ian Kennedy had undertaken a "demolition job" on the defence case and had taken on the mantle of prosecuting counsel.

Rock Tansey QC, for Mr Saunders, said the judge had "mocked and humiliated" Mr Saunders with his hostile and sarcastic observations and had subjected him to "intellectual bullying". The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, who was sitting with Mr Justice French and Mr Justice Pill, will give full reasons for the decision to quash the convictions later.

The defence lawyers had urged that the convictions be quashed without a retrial being ordered because of the length of time since the alleged events and the publicity that the case had attracted.

Lord Taylor said that the court felt there must be another trial, though in London rather than East Anglia.

The couple refused to comment as they left court. Mrs Whybrow's solicitor, Christopher Murray, said: "She has been held in secure prisons at Cookham Wood and Holloway for almost three years and has been a model prisoner. She is delighted with today's result."

Brian Spiro, solicitor for Mr Saunders, said: "It has been a long time since the original trial and he is anxious the retrial can proceed as quickly as possible."

Elstree studios stave off the terminator

By A Staff Reporter

ELSTREE film studios were saved temporarily from demolition yesterday when a High Court judge ruled that the local council had an arguable case for insisting owners Brent Walker keep them open.

The company gave an undertaking not to go ahead with demolition of the studios in Hertfordshire pending a full hearing of Hertsmere Borough Council's case.

The threat to the studios, where *Star Wars* and the Indiana Jones trilogy were made, has brought protests from senior figures in the film industry including Steven Spielberg, Stanley Kubrick, Kenneth Branagh and David Puttnam.

Mr Justice Jacob ruled that the action, which is expected to last four or five days, should go ahead speedily, but not before 12 weeks from now.

Brent Walker has outline planning permission to develop half the site as a retail superstore. Last year, it announced that the studios complex on the other half would close, unless a buyer came forward, because it was underused.

The council says it was a condition of the planning consent that that area would be maintained for film and television production until 2015.

The temporary reprieve should please Spielberg, who wrote in a letter to campaigners: "There are still many movies I want to make at Elstree. Please let it live again."

Greenpeace wins Thorp review

By Nick Nuttall
Environment Correspondent

GREENPEACE and Lancashire County Council yesterday secured the right for a judical review of the Government's decision to approve a nuclear fuel reprocessing plant at Sellafield.

At the High Court in London, Robert Griffiths, acting for Greenpeace, said the decision by John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, to allow British Nuclear Fuels to operate the Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant (Thorp) was "one of the most important, if not the most important, environmental issues of the day", which had been made without a public enquiry.

Nicholas Blake, for Lancashire council, said that scientific evidence from its advisers indicated that radioactive emissions could exceed the Government's recommended safety levels, putting at risk fishing communities in the Fleetwood and Morecambe Bay areas.

BNFL, with the Environment Department, did not challenge yesterday's application but said it would vigorously challenge the review, which Greenpeace will use to try to quash the plant's approval.

The company said that Greenpeace had climbed down from its original intention of asking the High Court to block the start-up of Thorp.

Bridget Woodman, of Greenpeace, dismissed the claim of a climbdown. "We have time to have the review and win a public enquiry before any emissions are produced," she said.

The review has been ordered to start on February 7 and is due to last five days.

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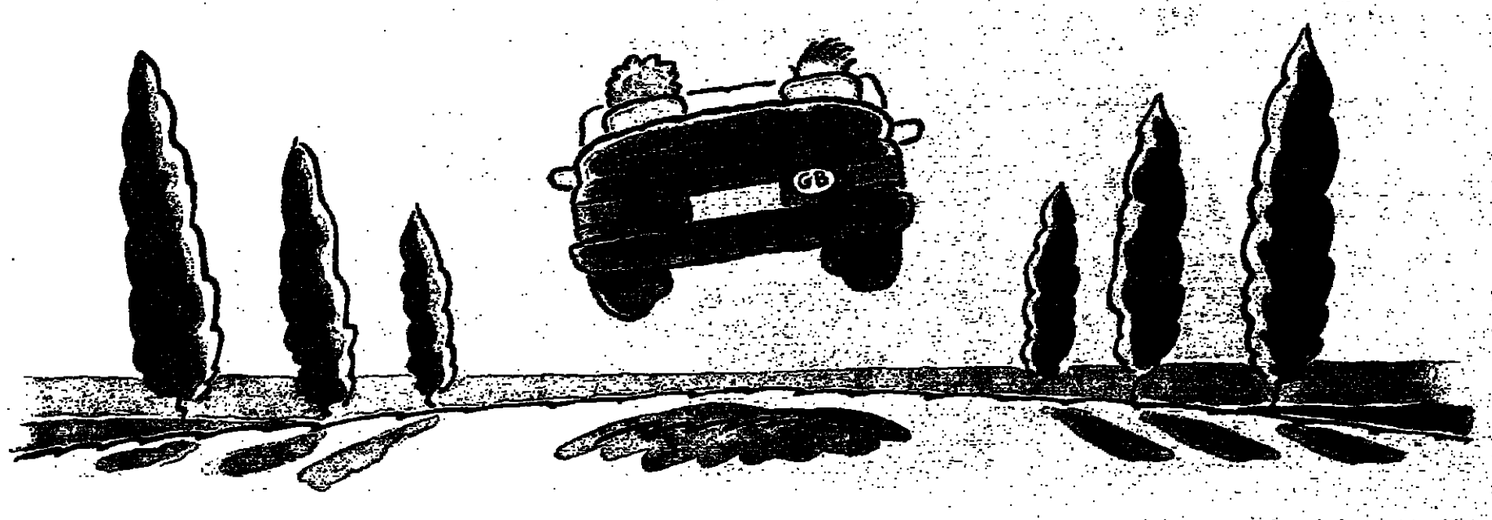
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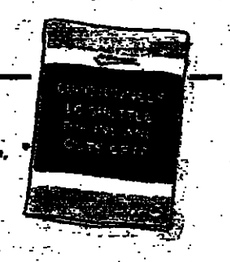
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Easy come. Easy go.

Homes for votes: faces behind exposé that shook the Tories



DAVID WEEKS was Dame Shirley Porter's deputy before taking over the leadership. He resigned last year but remains a councillor. He was "engaged in gerrymandering", the report says.



BARRY LEGG, now a Tory MP, was chief whip on the council during Dame Shirley's leadership. He, too, was "engaged in gerrymandering" and faces a £1 million surcharge.



JOHN MAGILL, the senior Touche Ross accountant and council auditor, carried out the investigation into a housing policy aimed at replacing Labour voters with Tories.



PATRICIA KIRWAN, the Westminster housing chairman who opposed the sales policy, was replaced by Dame Shirley. She later resigned, accusing the leader of "gimmick after gimmick".



MILES YOUNG, now council leader, denies they were guilty of gerrymandering, and says the policy was "successful and popular". He dismisses the scandal as a "local difficulty".



JACK STRAW, Labour's environment spokesman, says the report disclosed political corruption and gerrymandering in a flagship Tory council "on a scale unknown in modern Britain".

'Unlawful scheme was detrimental to local taxpayers'

BY TONY DAWE

DAME Shirley Porter, the former Westminster City Council leader, five fellow councillors and four officials were accused yesterday of "disgraceful, improper and illegal" behaviour.

They were guilty of political gerrymandering in introducing a policy to sell Westminster council homes to buyers likely to vote Tory, in a scheme that lost the council £21.25 million, John Magill, the Westminster district auditor, said.

It was "unlawful, unauthorised and to the detriment of the interest of local taxpayers", Mr Magill said in a provisional report after a four and a half year investigation. "The electoral advantage of the majority party was the driving force behind the policy."

The plan was introduced in 1987, a year after the Tories came close to losing control of their flagship council in local elections. It involved selling at large discounts council homes traditionally occupied by low-income Labour tenants to upwardly mobile voters, who were more likely to vote Conservative. The sales were concentrated in marginal wards.

Mr Magill decided that the responsibility for the illegal plan must be shared by Dame Shirley, David Weeks, her deputy, Barry Legg, then chief whip and now MP for Milton Keynes South West, Peter Hartley, then housing committee chairman, and two other councillors, Dr Michael Dutt and Judith Warner.

He also said four officials were guilty of "wilful misconduct" for their part in the plan: Bill Phillips, former chief executive, Graham England, housing director, Paul Hayler, divisional housing director, and Robert Lewis, former deputy solicitor.

Mr Magill's report created shock at Westminster city hall where some of those criticised still serve, but was greeted jubilantly by Labour councillors who had instigated the investigation. The auditor said he was "minded to apply" to the High Court for the ten councillors and officials to repay the costs of their unlawful policy and for them to be disqualified from local authority office. However, he will give them the opportunity to make representations, possibly at a public hearing in the spring. The case is unlikely to reach the High Court before the autumn.

The scandal has its origins in the 1986 local elections, when the Tory majority was cut to four. As the votes were being counted, Patricia Kirwan, the housing committee chairman, was confronted by Dame Shirley and told: "It's your policies which have nearly lost us this election."

Dame Shirley clearly thought that Mrs Kirwan's policies of encouraging developers to carry out part-private, part-council projects had increased the number of Labour-voting council tenants. She and her advisers devised the plan to reduce the number of Labour voters by selling council homes to potential Tory voters.

> 'The electoral advantage of the majority party was the driving force behind the policy'

Council officials under the leadership of Mr Phillips drew up plans to list 10,000 homes for sale, targeting properties in eight "battle zone" wards, three held by Labour and the rest by the Conservatives. In his report yesterday, Mr Magill said the council had spent thousands of pounds illegally in getting officers to prepare plans for "the promotion of electoral advantage".

By the time the plan was presented to the housing committee in July 1987, it had been widened to cover much of the borough. Councillors agreed to designate 9,360 properties for sale and set a target of achieving 500 sales a year and to provide grants to existing council tenants to encourage them to move out.

Mr Magill said yesterday that the decisions were inconsistent with the statutory duties which the council owed to the homeless and failed to take account of those with medical problems who needed rehousing as a priority. No authority acting reasonably would adopt a policy which would lead to the number of homeless families in temporary accommodation increasing by 132 a year at an additional cost of £1.5 million a year.

The auditor concluded: "I am minded to find as a fact that the electoral advantage of the majority party was the driving force behind the policy. That consideration was the predominant one which influenced both the decision to increase designated sales by 500 a year and the selection of properties designated for sale.

"My provisional view is that the council was engaged in gerrymandering which I am minded to find is a disgraceful and improper purpose."

Mr Magill began his investigation after a formal objection from local residents led by Neale Coleman, a Labour councillor. His findings amounted to a provisional verdict of guilty. His assessment of the losses is:

- £13.3 million lost by selling council properties at a discount.
- £2.6 million spent on grants to enable tenants to buy non-council property.
- £1.9 million cost of running the increased home sales.
- £1.2 million cost of boarding up vacant properties to keep out squatters and vandals prior to sale.
- £1.2 million lost in rent and rates.
- £759,000 lost in housing subsidy.
- £2.1 million cost of housing homeless families in temporary accommodation.

These losses are offset by credits of £1.8 million, mostly from interest on the sale of properties.



Baroness Thatcher receiving the Freedom of the City of Westminster from Dame Shirley Porter in 1991

'Fearsome' leader fights on own terms

BY IAN MURRAY

DAME SHIRLEY PORTER

IF SHE is true to her word, Dame Shirley Porter is bravely smiling now. "There's a song, *Smile Though Your Heart is Breaking*, which applies to me," she said in a recent interview.

Her defiant rebuttal of the auditor's conclusions yesterday shows that however awful she feels, characteristically she intends to fight. The fact that she is not expected to return to the UK for the foreseeable future, however, suggests that she means to fight on her own terms.

For someone who thinks of herself as "a shy, retiring, lovely person", Dame Shirley admits to having a reputation as "a powerful, fearsome creature". She blames that on her time mixing with politicians. "If you lie down with dogs you get up with fleas," is a favourite slogan her father taught her.

"There have been moments when I've thought: 'Oh God, the whole world hates me'," she confesses. She could easily have turned into a traditional rich Jewish momma after her children left home when she was 39. Instead she courted the limelight.

It was rubbish in London's streets which drove her into politics. She first stood for office on a platform of cleaning up rubbish, but once in the council chamber began to preach the virtues of good housekeeping.

Like Baroness Thatcher, with whom she has often been compared, she learnt about running a shop from her father, Jack (later Sir John) Cohen, the founder of Tesco. He began life as a barrow boy and made the family motto: "Pile 'em high and sell 'em cheap."

When she was nine she was sent to a boarding school in Worthing, which was then evacuated to Cornwall. There she ran into anti-semitism and, because she felt herself treated as an outsider, she proved difficult to discipline. She got two distinctions and five credits in her school certificate but by the time she was 15 her father decided to send her to a finishing school in Switzerland, where she says she learnt to ski and little else.

At 17 she met and married Leslie Porter, ten years her senior and a former quartermaster sergeant who had seen action in north Africa, Crete and Italy. The family approved because he was the son of a well-to-do Jewish textile importer. She approved because she thought he was so handsome.

By the time she was 20 she was a mother, and 20 years later she was a mother-in-law. By 1974 she was a Westminster councillor in the safe Tory ward of Hyde Park, where she now lived. She sat on road safety and highways committees and waged relentless war on litter. She still lists "cleaning up London and waste-hunting" as recreations in *Who's Who*.

In 1983 she was chosen as leader and steered a penny-pinching, controversial course for the Tory flagship council over the next eight years. She gave Westminster sponsored litter bins, the second lowest poll tax in the country and a reputation for ruthless efficiency. Her perceived budgetary success was very influential in persuading Mrs Thatcher to abolish the Greater London Council.

Last year her son bought a controlling interest in LBC and gave her the job of chairman. The present turned sour within months when the radio station lost its franchise.

Council defends housing policy

BY RACHEL KELLY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

WESTMINSTER City Council yesterday vigorously defended its role. Miles Young, the council leader, refuted suggestions of gerrymandering and rejected the district auditor's estimate of the cost of designated sales. He described the furore over the report as an "element of local difficulty" and said he was "extremely surprised".

He said he did not believe the "highly popular and successful" policy was capable of influencing an election result, and that the policy would remain in place at the council for the time being.

At Westminster, Labour politicians were jubilant. None had expected that John Magill, the auditor, would

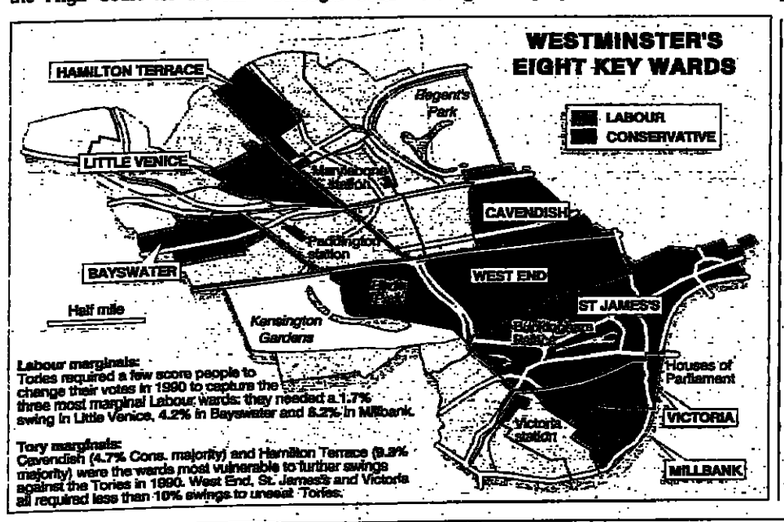
REACTION

produce such an unequivocal condemnation. Jack Straw, Labour's environment spokesman, told a news conference that Westminster had been the Tories' national flagship. "This report discloses political corruption, and gerrymandering, on a scale unknown in modern Britain," he said.

Mr Young said: "I absolutely believe it is a nonsense to claim that the designated sales policy, as agreed and implemented by the housing committee, was in any way whatsoever designed or even capable of influencing an election result." Under repeated questioning, he said: "I did not know that the policy was wrong as it was conceived. I would stand by that." He said the council would be vigorously contesting the findings of the provisional report.

The council rejected the auditor's estimate of the cost of designated sales — of £21 million — and put the total at about £6 million.

The auditor's report will now go to a meeting of the council's policy resources committee on January 20. Those involved in the report have until February 29 to submit their formal written response so that the auditor can draw up the final report.



Labour supporter 'pushed out'

BY EMMA WILKINS

CASE STUDY

MAXINE Sandford, 22 and a single mother with two young children, is one of the victims of Westminster City Council's housing policy.

A committed Labour voter, she moved out of Westminster on the advice of a council official last year and now lives in leasehold accommodation in Beckton, east London, with her daughters Kiera, nine months and Erin, 2.

The council's housing officials have, so far, resisted her pleas to move back to Westminster, where she was born. "My gran told me to say I was a Tory voter, because, that way, they were sure to find me a flat," Miss Sandford said yesterday. "I only wish I had taken her advice."

A note from her doctor, diagnosing depression, failed to impress council officals and she has now been forced to give up her job.

"The final straw came when I managed to get a nursery place for Erin in Westminster. These places are like gold dust. When I moved out of Westminster, I had to turn down the nursery place — I just burst into tears," she said.

Miss Sandford's housing problems began in October 1992, when she and her boyfriend moved from their rented flat in Westminster because he lost his job. The couple moved into her mother's three-bedroomed flat in Churchill Gardens. The strain soon began to tell and Miss Sandford's boyfriend left her.

After applying for a flat as a single mother, housing officials told her she faced a two- or three-year wait, and suggested she join their home-ownership scheme.

Shortly after Kiera's birth, Miss Sandford's mother asked her to move out as soon as possible. "I needed to find somewhere else to live quickly, but the council suggested I move into a hotel. I couldn't face it and they came up with the alternative of a flat in one of their houses in east London."

Council 10 facing £21m demand

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND RACHEL KELLY

PERSONALITIES

BARRY Legg swept into Parliament in 1992 as one of a trio of Thatcherite disciples who had stamped Margaret Thatcher's free-market ethos indelibly on local government.

His failure to reach the first rung of the ladder towards ministerial office has been due largely to his hard-line stance on Maastricht.

"He has extremely strong views and it would be almost impossible to sway him when his mind is set," said one fellow right-winger.

More crucial to his future now may prove to be his ability to pay back his share of the money which yesterday's report claims Westminster council lost. Although he entered Parliament as one of a group of Tory MPs who had become quite wealthy through their work in the City during the 1980s, he is not in the millionaire class.

Others who may have to pay for the council's losses include **David Weeks**, one of Dame Shirley's closest former advisers and former leader of the council. He resigned in July last year as leader after repeated disputes with his own chief executive, Merv Montacute. He remains a councillor.

He chaired the planning and development committee when Westminster's "designated sales policy" was introduced.

Judith Warner was elected to the council for the Hamilton Terrace ward in May 1986. She is currently chairman of the education committee.

Peter Hartley was housing committee chairman when the decision was taken to adopt the policy, and subsequently chairman of the environment committee that sold off three council cemeteries in January 1987 for 5p each. He resigned in February, 1988, after the cemeteries scandal.

Dr Michael Dutt, a former councillor, is a GP with a practice in Knightsbridge. He was a Tory candidate at the last general election.

Robert Lewis, a former deputy city solicitor with the council, now works with the top City law firm Freshfields.

Bill Phillips, a Shirley Porter appointee and former managing director of the council from 1987 to 1991, did not seek an extension of his four-year contract when it came up for renewal in 1991. He now works for a firm of recruitment consultants.

Graham England, currently director of housing at the council. A professional career council officer, he is believed to be on a salary of around £60,000 a year.

Concerned councillor blew the whistle on his colleagues

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT AND TONY DAWE

A WESTMINSTER Tory, concerned that vital documents about the council's controversial housing policy had gone missing, was unwittingly partly responsible for yesterday's damning report on former colleagues. Simon Mabey, a leading member of Westminster City Council during the 1980s, produced scores of documents which John Magill, the auditor, had not seen.

The documents confirmed Mr Magill's suspicions that incriminating evidence had been shredded and gave a fresh impetus to his flagging enquiry. Armed with the papers, he returned to the council offices and began a thorough search for copies which had escaped the shredder, including a painstaking check of the entire underground storage area containing many thousands of archived files.

The search uncovered documents which enabled the auditor to reach his provisional findings yesterday.

Mr Magill was helped by several other prominent Westminster Conservatives troubled by the autocratic way Dame Shirley Porter ran the council, and her "gerrymandering" policies. They included Anthony Prendergast, a former mayor of Westminster, and Patricia Kirwan, a former housing chairman.

Mr Mabey, an accountant with Smith and Williamson, turned out his council files in preparation for an interview with Mr Magill. A spokesman for the company said that Mr Mabey had been advised to make no comment by lawyers and the auditor. He is known to have opposed previous moves by the council to sell more of its homes but was not a member of the housing committee which took the "unlawful" decision in July 1987.

He had been a member of the "chairmen's group" of leading councillors and as such had access to most important policy documents.

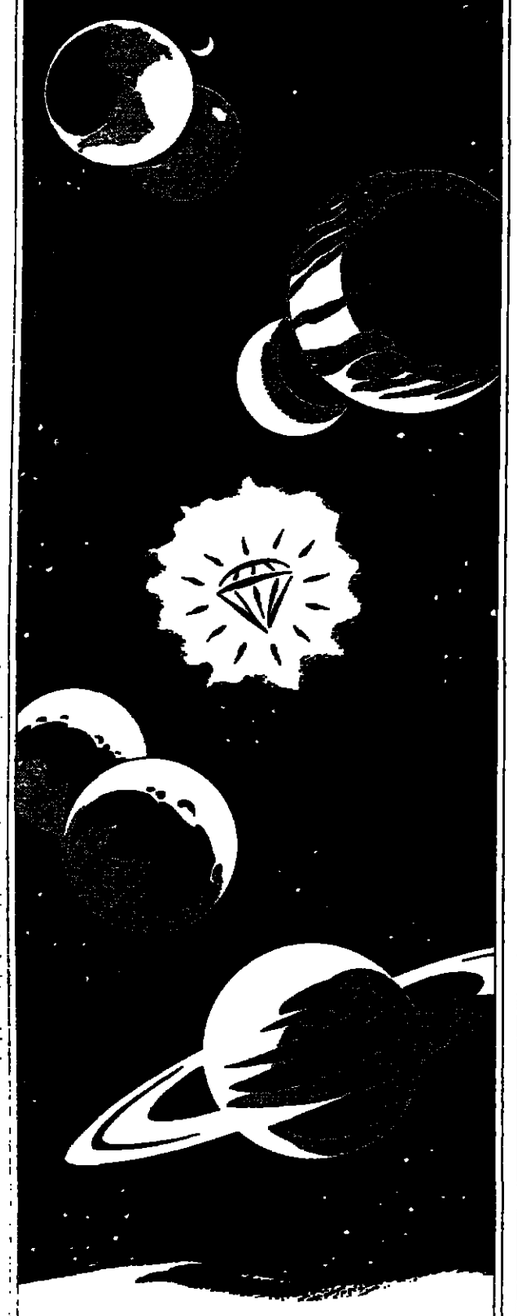
Mr Magill did not mention Mr Mabey in his statement yesterday but did reveal the extent to which he had searched for documents. He said that he had inspected a very large number of files in the council policy unit, the former managing director's office, the housing directorate, the planning and transportation directorate and the city solicitor and secretary's department.

"I also located and examined in a storeroom files of the former department of leisure and reviewed the entire underground filing area.

"Significant new documentation was obtained in the course of the searches. Such documentation has only come to light because of painstaking work carried out by me, and on my behalf, in reviewing page by page hundreds of files which might have contained material documents but which in most cases did not do so."

Among the other Conservatives interviewed at length by Mr Magill was Mrs Kirwan, who resigned from the council in September 1989, accusing Dame Shirley of "gimmick after gimmick" and attacking the home sales policy.

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Airbag incidents worry car makers

BY KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

A driver's burns after her car airbag inflated and problems experienced in the United States have raised questions over a significant safety innovation

PROBLEMS in America with car airbags were being studied in Britain yesterday and car makers were checking the safety of the device after fears that it could cause burns or inflate accidentally. A woman is recovering from burns today after the airbag in her five-month-old Ford Mondeo inflated in a crash.

In the United States, safety officials are investigating complaints that airbags have inflated when cars have gone over potholes or speed bumps. Ford recalled 1,500 of its 1994 pick-up trucks in America because the driver-side airbag could be triggered when the door was slammed while the ignition key was in the start position. There have been several recalls of cars in the United States because of faults in airbag systems. America's National Highway Transport Safety Administration is considering ordering a recall if faults in airbag design are found.

Department of Transport officials said yesterday there were no recorded cases in the United Kingdom of airbags causing accidents by inflating when they had not been involved in a crash. The motor industry has been shaken by the case of Beverley Tumelty, a 28-year-old nurse who was treated for minor burns to her chest which she said were caused by an airbag. It inflated when her Mondeo was in collision with another car and ran into bollards. The airbag, designed to inflate at crashes over 20mph, filled with gas within 40 milliseconds of the impact to protect her head and upper body from severe injury. It appeared to have set fire to her clothes in what is thought to be the first such incident and certainly the first known to Ford engineers.

A team of engineers from Ford's headquarters at Brentwood, Essex, studied the £13,700 Mondeo yesterday, trying to discover what might have caused Mrs Tumelty's burns. Scientists at the Government's Transport Research Laboratory said that the heat of the exploding gases could be the problem.

The bag is inflated by an exploding charge that forces gas at high speed into the 30-litre nylon bag housed in the centre of the steering wheel. The tiny explosive means that motor dealers have to register under the Explosive Acts to carry out maintenance and to keep spare parts.

The transport scientists found the gas reached up to 82C in bench tests. A spokesman said: "It is possible that you could get abrasions from the nylon from sitting too close to the steering wheel. Without examining this particular case, we cannot say for certain." Don Hume, Ford's UK spokesman, said yesterday: "This case has to be put into perspective, in that we have about 4.2 million airbags fitted to our vehicles. We have had no real problems up until this point."

Vauxhall is among several companies awaiting the Ford findings. A spokesman said: "We shall look at the Ford case and see if it relates to our system. But we are confident that our airbags are safe."

The industry was united in stressing that airbags were a big contribution to road safety. Independent tests have shown that drivers using an airbag and a safety belt reduce their chances of injury in a crash by an average of 29 per cent. The transport laboratory spokesman said: "No one is going to get mutilated by an airbag but they do stand a chance of escaping serious injuries if their car has one."

Motoring, page 18

Hume will receive Duchess into faith

BY ALAN HAMILTON

SINCE the beginning of this century, there have been an estimated 750,000 converts to the Roman Catholic church in Britain.

Most have joined as a matter of private conscience; few since John Henry Newman's very public abandonment of the Church of England in 1845 have attracted such attention as the Duchess of Kent, who will make the spiritual transfer today.

She will be received into the faith by Cardinal Basil Hume, who posed for photographers yesterday at Archbishop's House, Westminster, in front of Simon Elwes' portrait of one of his distinguished predecessors, Cardinal Arthur Hinsley, who was the senior Roman churchman in England from 1935 to 1943.

Cardinal Hume, a former abbot of Ampleforth, is the first monk to have occupied the see of Westminster since the Catholic hierarchy was restored in England in 1850.

Since his appointment in 1976, has won a reputation as an outward-looking reformer, in contrast to his predecessor, the robust but introspective Cardinal Heenan.

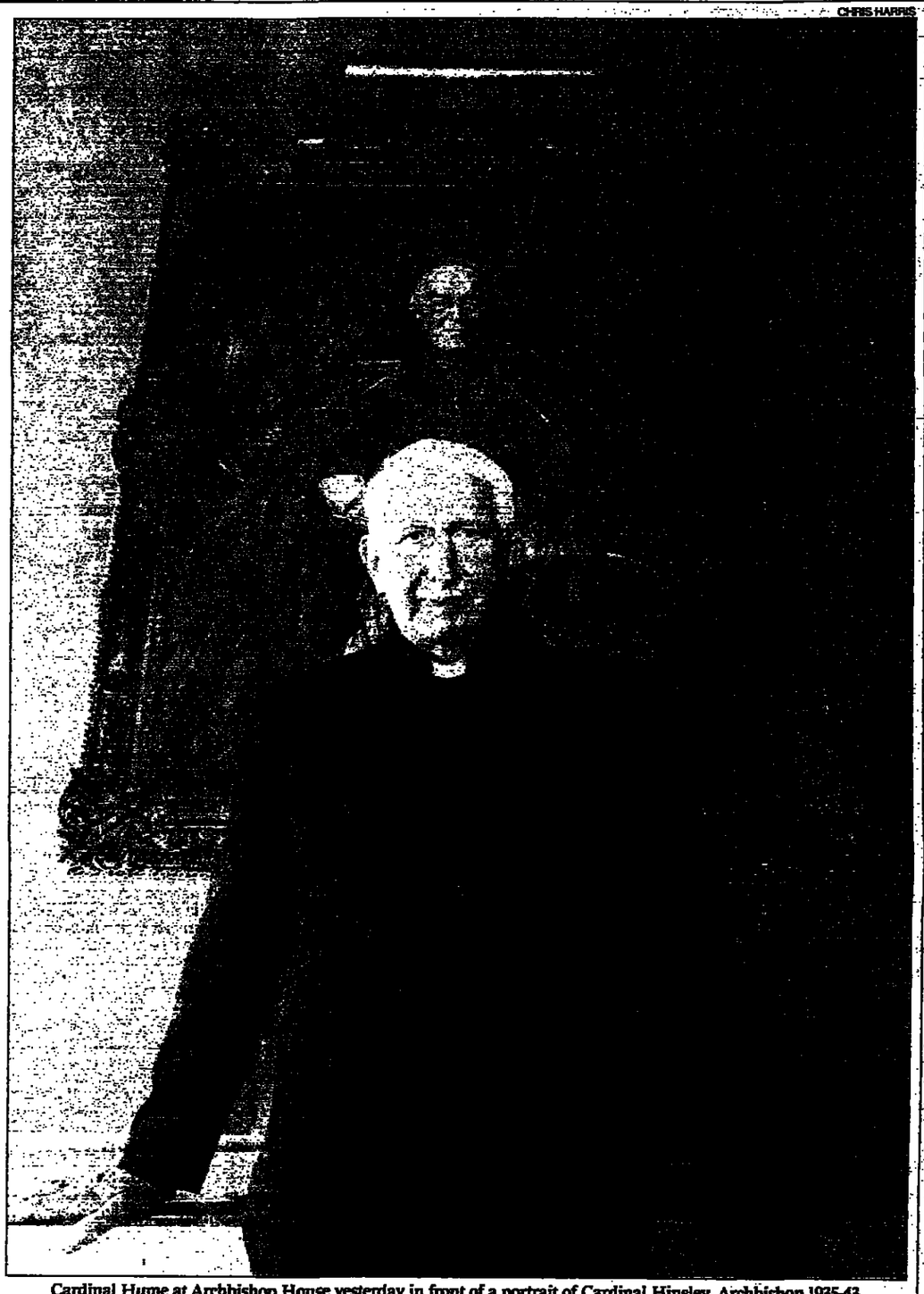
It is not much more than two centuries since the Gordon Riots brought the English mob on the streets, crying "No popery."

Today, Cardinal Hume breaks new ground by welcoming into his once-derided flock a member, albeit only by marriage, of the royal family, custodians of a throne which for now largely redundant historical reasons may be occupied only by an adherent to the Protestant faith.

Her decision has been an intensely personal and private one. For the Roman Catholic Church, it is a quiet triumph.

For the monarchy in a pluralist society, it may be the first loosening of bonds imposed when the concern was to prevent the remnants of the Stuart dynasty from repossessing the throne.

CHRIS HARRIS



Cardinal Hume at Archbishop House yesterday in front of a portrait of Cardinal Hinsley, Archbishop 1935-43

Sons given £80,000 for air crash

The two youngest sons of a couple who died in the M1 Kegworth air crash five years ago were awarded £80,000 agreed damages against British Midland Airways in the High Court.

Brian and Anne Chilvers were returning to Northern Ireland when the Boeing 737 crashed in January 1989, killing 47 people. They left five children: David, now 21, Richard, 14, Clare, 23, Martin, 25, and Rosemary, 27.

Rosemary, of Co Down, brought the damages action on behalf of David and Richard, who were still dependent on their parents at the time. Richard will receive 70 per cent of the damages and David 30 per cent. Rosemary will receive £16,500 for past care and expenses.

Tigress found dead

A 17-year-old Indian tigress that sparked a police and army search after it disappeared from it scage at Belfast zoo at 6pm on Wednesday was found dead yesterday when the moat surrounding its enclosure was drained.

Yorkie, who was described as a geriatric in human terms, apparently fell into the moat after a suspected heart attack.

Joyrider dies

A 22-year-old man died after crashing a stolen Austin Metro into a brick wall in Hartlepool, Cleveland, during a police chase that reached speeds of up to 100mph. Two male passengers, aged 16 and 26, are being treated in hospital for head and leg injuries.

Infant hurt

A three-month-old boy was in a critical condition in Royal United Hospital, Bath, after he was allegedly hurled against a wall to stop him crying. Police said a 28-year-old man was being questioned in connection with the incident.

Minibus crash

Eight handicapped children were taken to hospital with minor injuries after their minibus was wrecked in a crash with two cars in Battle, East Sussex.

Swans starving

More than 700 swans are starving to death at Berwick-upon-Tweed after waste water from the barley malting industry was diverted in a river clean-up.

Fire injury

Dorothy Dadley, a pensioner of Lane End, Buckinghamshire, was in a critical condition in hospital last night after choking on smoke in a blaze at her home.

Wind blow

A man aged 50 is being treated for back injuries after scaffolding, apparently weakened by high winds, collapsed in Camden, north London.

Name game

A national five-a-side soccer tournament, in which all 200 players are named Patel, will be held in Kettering, Northamptonshire, on Sunday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Grand Prix winners

AS EXPECTED, Michael Adams has now been officially confirmed as the winner of the £3,000 Leigh Grand Prix for the best results in British tournaments over the past year.

The full list of winners is:

Grand Prix	Michael Adams
Petit Prix	Keith Arkell
Amateur	Philip Briggs
Junior	Matthew Sadler
Under 18	Mark Ferguson
Under 16	Adam Hunt
Under 14	Philip Pugh
Under 12	Tom Remington

The Grand Prix for the best woman player was won by Susan Arkell.

Young talent

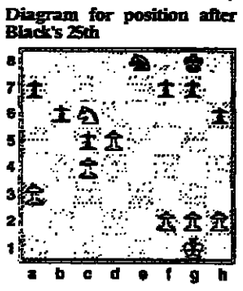
Towards the end of last year, I was invited to play simultaneously against 20 champions from the London Primary Schools Chess League. The standard of opposition was impressive and the fiercest resistance was displayed by Matthew Tillett, whose precise defence almost earned him a draw.

White: Ray Keene
Black: Matthew Tillett
Simultaneous Display, London, 1993

Queen's Gambit Accepted

1	d4	d5
2	c4	dxc4
3	Nf3	Nf6
4	Nc3	e6
5	e4	Bb4
6	Bg5	h6
7	Bxf6	Qxf6
8	Bxc4	0-0
9	0-0	Nd7
10	Rc1	c5
11	a3	Bxc3
12	bxc3	b6
13	Bb5	Qe7
14	d5	Qd8
15	Re1	exd5
16	Qxd5	Qxd5
17	exd5	Rd3
18	Bc6	Rb8
19	Re7	Nf8
20	c4	Bd7
21	Ne5	Bxc6
22	Nxc6	Re8
23	Rce1	Rxe7
24	Rxe7	Re8
25	Rxe8+	Nxe8

Diagram for position after Black's 25th



26	Ne7+	Kf8
27	Nc8	Nc7
28	Nxa7	Ke7
29	Nc8+	Kd7
30	Nxb6+	Kd6
31	f4	f5
32	Kf2	g5
33	Ke3	g4
34	Na4	Ne8
35	Nc3	Nc7
36	Nb5+	Nxb5
37	cxb5	Kxc5
38	Kd3	c4+
39	Kc3	Kc5
40	a4	h5
41	g3	Kd5
42	b6	Kc6
43	a5	Kb7
44	Kxc4	Kc6
45	Kb4	Kb7
46	Kc5	h4
47	gxh4	g3
48	hxg3	Kb8

Black resigns

Winning Move, page 40

Jail treatment of teenagers 'breaches UN convention'

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE treatment of young offenders in custody breaches a United Nations convention on children's rights, says a report endorsed by Judge Stephen Tumim, Chief Inspector of Prisons.

The report, drawn up by the Children's Legal Centre, is being submitted to the UN today alongside the official report on the Government's response to the convention, which was ratified in 1991. It is based on 19 reports on young offender institutions by the prisons inspectorate for England and Wales, and alleges breaches over inmates' contact with their families, the handling of complaints, suicides, abuse and standards of living.

In a foreword, Judge Tumim says he commends the report to anyone seriously concerned with the fate of young people in custody. He says the prison service's self-declared aim of looking after inmates with humanity and helping towards useful lives "applies to the young as much as to the old".

The introduction to the report says that the UK locks up more young people than any other country in Western Europe: 20 per cent of the prison population in 1990 was under 21. The Criminal Justice and Public Order Bill, now before Parliament, will increase the number of young prisoners. It proposes that maximum sentences be raised and a new detention sentence for those aged 12 to 14.

The report acknowledges that improvements are being made and that the law aims to rehabilitate young offenders. But it says: "The problems in many of the establishments described in this document are such that young offenders are in fact punished while in custody in ways not envisaged in UK legislation and contrary to the convention."

There was particular concern about young offender institutions established in wings of adult prisons.

The Prison Service said last night that many of the points in the report had been addressed. The report did not take into account initiatives against bullying, prevention of suicides, increased visiting time and putting offenders in institutions near their homes.

In a separate report, the Howard League urges greater efforts to maintain links between inmates and their families. Frances Crook, its director, said there were pockets of good practice but most jails did not appreciate the importance of family contact.

Crisp nights produce pick of the pears

BY STEVEN FOX

WARM days and crisp nights last summer helped to produce the particularly firm and juicy pears that are available.

English and Dutch Conference pears are 30p-60p a lb. Comice pears are also good value at 30p-65p a lb.

Other good fruit buys include Spania navel oranges at 15p-35p each and clementines at 5p-18p each. English Cox's apples are 30p-50p a lb.

Crunchy iceberg lettuce from the Canary Islands can be had for 45p-89p each.

On the meat counter, unsmoked middle bacon is about 99p a lb. Pork leg is good value at about 79p a lb.

Despite the recent spate of bad weather, fish prices are down from last week. Crab and sardines are good buys at about £1.30 a lb. Even better are mussels at about £2 for 4½ lb. Smoked sprats are available at 75p a pound.

Advertised best buys:

☐ Asda: Lyons Fun Rolls £1.29 for 12; seedless green grapes 99p a lb; Kronenbourg £6.99 for 8 x 500ml.

☐ Co-op: Kelloggs All Bran £1.45 for 750g; Co-op toilet tissue 4-roll pack 69p; Co-op chicken curry £1.09 for 400g.

☐ Iceland: corned beef 99p for 8oz; mild Cheddar cheese £1.39 a lb; garden peas 69p for 2lb; Neapolitan ice cream £1.99 for 2ltr.

☐ Marks & Spencer: French country red wine £2.79 for 75cl; roast chicken and mushroom pie £1.79; New Zealand lamb shoulder £2.09 a lb.

☐ Safeway: beef rump steak £2.78 a lb; UK carrots 69p for 1.3kg; sliced wholemeal bread 45p for 800g.

☐ Sainsbury's: pure apple juice 4 x 1ltr £1.99; Macleans toothpaste 125ml £1.09; boneless loin pork £2.18 a lb.

☐ Tesco: 20 Birds Eye fish fingers 99p; fruit yoghurt 12 x 125g pack £2.39; frozen strawberry meringue gateau £1.49.

☐ Waitrose: salmon steaks £4.45 a lb; British minced beef £1.19 a lb; lychees 99p a lb; grapefruit 19p each.

Somalia's warlords hold talks to avert renewed bloodshed

FROM SAM KILEY IN MOGADISHU

■ Years of banditry, war and famine have alienated Mogadishu warlords from their supporters, who are turning to their traditional leaders to ensure peace

MOGADISHU'S traditional and religious leaders held a fourth day of secret talks yesterday aimed at sealing a peace deal between the city's rival clans, in what is being seen as Somalia's last hope of avoiding renewed civil war.

Tensions between clans have recently disrupted relief operations in most major towns in the south of the country. The peace talks may also deliver a "third man", who would be acceptable to most factions, to form a national administration.

Southern Somalia has been devastated largely because of the personal rivalries of General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, chairman of the Somali National Alliance (SNA), and Ali Mahdi Muhammad, who styles himself the "interim President" and represents the Abgal clan. Both General Aidid, who was unsuccessfully pursued for five months by the United Nations and America for his alleged part in the killing of 24 Pakistani peacekeepers last June, and Mr Ali Mahdi may find themselves undermined by traditional leaders when the talks in Mogadishu conclude.

"We are totally fed up with the so-called political leadership. They are nothing better than gangsters. We want to go back to our old ways of doing things," said Ali Barre Siad, a merchant, who lowered his voice as a militiaman sauntered past carrying a machinegun. "We are at the mercy of these *moryaan* [bandits]. They loot us all the time and have no respect," he said.

Three years of banditry, war, and a famine which killed 350,000 and was exploited by the militia leaders have alienated men like Mr Ali Mahdi and General Aidid from their supporters, who have turned to their traditional leaders for help. The biggest threat to the warlords comes from the main figures at the conference — Imam Hiraan, a religious leader, and Ali Ugas Ali, chief of the traditionally neutral Hawadle clan.

As UN and American troops continue to lose their grip on much of the country, the spectre of civil war and greater anarchy looms large, and this has forced Somalis to seek a lasting peace before they are abandoned by the international community.

The kidnapping of Calum Gardner, a British aid worker, who was freed after 44 hours earlier this week, showed a renewed desire among Somali leaders to see the return of law to their country. Ironically, clan leaders and senior figures from General Aidid's SNA used a mixture of bribery and threats to force the kidnappers to free Mr Gardner after the UN's World Food Programme, Mr Gardner's employer, asked them to secure his release without payment from the UN.

Even the political leaders who sidelined traditional authority until now, see the *imams (Muslim priests)* and ugases (chiefs) are their only hope.

"We known that a new war may come soon, so we now have to hurry to get our own clans to agree a peace. People do not trust each other, and do not trust the political leadership. Therefore the grassroots have to be involved," said Professor Issa Siad Muhammad, foreign affairs spokesman for the SNA. Yesterday he admitted that the SNA no longer wanted to dominate the whole nation. "Central government is totally unnecessary at this stage, except in foreign relations. We need regions [based essentially on clan divisions] with autonomy so that none of the clans can get the upper hand. Without this, we will continue fighting for centuries. It is the traditional leaders who have the key to the future," he said.



Calum Gardner, who was freed this week

☐ **UN patrol ambushed:** Five Indian soldiers were wounded in an ambush on a UN patrol in southern Somalia yesterday, a UN spokesman said. Major Tim McDavitt said the soldiers were injured when their truck rolled over after a remote-control bomb was set off underneath it.

There was then a gun battle between the rest of the patrol and Somalis. The soldiers were later each reported to be in a "stable condition" at a UN hospital. *(AFP)*



A Palestinian carries the remains of a car on his donkey cart through the streets of Gaza City yesterday as talks on autonomy continue

Iranian to be executed for giving up Islam

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE European Union voiced strong concern to Iran yesterday at the impending execution for apostasy of Mehdi Dibaj, a 59-year-old Iranian from Esfahan who is accused of renouncing Islam and converting to Christianity after the age of maturity. Iranian jurists said the crime carried the death penalty.

Greece, acting on behalf of the Twelve, told the Iranian Foreign Ministry that the execution, which may take place today after midday prayers, would do nothing to improve Iran's standing. Germany, which has suffered criticism for its dialogue with Tehran, lodged its protest a day earlier.

Mr Mehdi was first brought before a court in 1986 and was sentenced to death for "apostasy and cursing the Prophet of Allah, Muhammad, and all the saints and insulting Ayatollah Khomeini". An appeal court cleared him of cursing the Prophet, but decided he had converted to Christianity at 19 although brought up a Muslim.

The court said Islamic law decreed that an apostate should have a chance to repent or be killed. Mr Dibaj said he accepted its verdict "with joy and peace". He asked that the sentence be carried out quickly, that his body be donated to a medical college, that he be allowed to wear his cross and receive communion before his execution.

In a letter from Sari prison he thanked the Christian church in Iran for its spiritual and financial help towards him and his children.

The Iranians told the Greek embassy that nobody in Iran was executed for their beliefs. The difficulty of the case is that throughout the Muslim world apostasy is regarded as a blasphemy deserving death.

Letters, page 15

Beduin fight to stay in the desert

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN BEERSHEBA

WHEN Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, looks out from his office window in Jerusalem he can probably just see the three figures in the Beduin tent crouched around an open fire on Protest Hill.

While the sights and sounds of anti-government demonstrations have become routine in Israel, few campaigns have been quite so stubborn as the one being mounted by the country's last nomadic tribesmen to save their land, their herds and their centuries-old traditions from extinction.

"How would he like it if I forced him to live in a tent for the rest of his life?" asked Zweilim al-Kalab, a member of the Azazme clan of the central Negev desert which is fighting government attempts to evict the last 800 Beduin from a region that once boasted 80,000 nomadic tribesmen. "He would fight it, just as we are fighting his attempts to take away our herds and put us all into houses."

His tribe's desperate four-month protest campaign to hold on to their land is understandable, given the fate of the tens of thousands of Beduin who failed to resist the Israeli government's 40-year eviction campaign and are still paying the price.

Just south of Beersheba, camped beside the town prison, a chemicals plant and the main road to Eilat, are the pathetic remnants of the once proud desert nomads who for centuries ruled unchallenged in a desert too inhospitable for anyone else to want.

"They offered me a house in a township, but there is no place to keep my flock, so I prefer to stay here," said Ayada Shlabi, who lives with his extended family in the Beduin shanty town that has sprung up at Ramat Hovav, south of Beersheba.



Like most residents, he was evicted from his grazing lands in the central Negev by the so-called "Green Patrol", rangers employed by the Israel Lands Authority, to clear the tribesmen out and make way for military training and Jewish settlements. The patrol's tactics include confiscating tents, seizing herds and cutting off access to water. Israel insists that the land is necessary for security.

The Beduin are not without friends, not least because they have served with distinction in the army, where they are traditionally employed as trackers and scouts.

Clinton Bailey, an anthropologist and expert in Beduin culture at Tel Aviv University, has spearheaded a campaign to save them, which has attracted support in the media and government to halt what he calls "ethnic cleansing".

☐ **Minister dies:** Palestinians and Israelis expressed grief at the death yesterday of Johan Jorgen Holst, the Norwegian Foreign Minister who brokered the talks leading to their peace agreement. Doctors said he died of a stroke.

Obituary, page 17

Hollywood stars teach black South Africa how to vote

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

AS NELSON Mandela, president of the African National Congress, was conferring yesterday with his allies in the Patriotic Front on an election strategy, South Africa became the beneficiary of international electoral help.

First, it was reported that 5,000 international observers would be sent to make sure all was free and fair at the polls. Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, said the observer force would be led by 1,800 UN officials and backed by teams from the Commonwealth, European Union, Organisation for African Unity and other groups.

More glamorously, a team of black American show business and sports luminaries arrived in Johannesburg to launch a programme aimed at teaching the African population, who have never voted for anything before, how to vote. They included Danny Glover, the co-star in the *Lethal Weapon* series of films. However, a number of people had backed off, and the tinselly list was a good deal shorter than intended. The absentees included Blair Underwood, who plays the handsome lawyer in the television series *LA Law*. Cicely Tyson's absence also caused glum expressions. A key problem that the liberation parties face is the habit among the less educated to regard a cross as an indication of error. At the same time a group of British MPs, led by Peter Temple-Morris, is holding a seminar for electoral candidates in Johannesburg on how MPs may be expected to conduct themselves. The seminar team includes George Foulkes and Lady Hollis of Heigham. Next week another seminar will be given in Durban with Peter Bottomley, Robert Hughes and Lord Merlyn-Rees. Veteran electoral observers have also been named by the country's transitional executive to sit on the independent election authority, which takes over responsibility from the Home Ministry for running the election. The list includes a Sri Lankan, a Canadian, an American and an Eritrean lawyer.

None of the foreign contingent appears to be daunted by a threat from a mysterious right-wing group called the Boer Republican Army whose messages are sent by fax. The group yesterday warned foreign peace observers to leave the country or face death. It also threatened to paralyse the economic infrastructure through "unheard-of economic sabotage". They have claimed responsibility for several bomb blasts, including last month's sabotage of a power-line tower in which two people died and at least 14 were injured.

The ANC said last night, after Mr Mandela's meeting with the Patriotic Front, that all the parties would fight together under the ANC banner. The front includes the South African Communist Party, the Confederation of South African Trade Unions, several governments and parties from the black-ruled homelands, and parties representing the Indian and Coloured communities. All will find places in the ANC list of candidates, to be completed this weekend.

Prices frozen

Abidjan: African franc zone states are trying to curb swingeing price rises after this week's 50 per cent devaluation of their common currency. The zone's strongest economy, Ivory Coast, announced a three-month freeze on a list of 34 goods and services. *(Reuter)*

China takes a swing at golf courses

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY, EAST ASIA EDITOR, IN HONG KONG

In a blow to some of the most glittering symbols of Deng Xiaoping's market-oriented China, the Communist Party yesterday forbade the construction of new golf courses and horse-racing tracks.

The ban is an admission of the crisis in agriculture caused by peasants quitting the land in their millions for better pay. This has led to nationwide food shortages and fears of disorder so acute that the armed police are patrolling parts of Peking.

Contradicting the basic reformist aphorism of the past decade — "to get rich is glorious" — and in a throwback to the deadening slogans of Mao's time, the *People's Daily* outlined "the Four Noes" prohibiting permits, licences, land allocation and lending for golf courses and horse tracks.

The ban apparently will not affect the construction in progress of 20 golf courses, to join the ten already completed, and the 15 tracks under construction in addition to the three existing ones. The decree said: "Since the amount of land available to the state each year is limited, every inch of land should guarantee the interests of the state."

Earlier this month, reacting to soaring food prices and shortages of grain in densely populated cities, the state announced it was shipping 140 emergency trainloads of food carrying 700,000 tons of grain to Peking, Shanghai and Tianjin, and to eight provinces from Guangdong to Sichuan, some of which have been China's traditional grain baskets. By March, the shipments will amount to four million tons, designed to damp down grumbling during the coming new year period when Chinese expect to eat plentifully.

"The situation is not ideal," an official admitted. "Some regions are not receiving adequate supplies." For two years at least, China's peasants — numbering 800 million — have been seething with resentment. Although they are required by the state to supply fixed quantities of grain at state-controlled prices, the central treasury is so depleted that for season after season peasants have been paid in "white money" — IOUs — which are often not redeemed.

The *Farmers' Daily* has described peasant unwillingness to grow grain and the hoarding of middlemen to drive up prices. There are at least 100 million "floating" rural people moving about China in search of work and recently Liu Jiang, the Minister of Agriculture, issued a warning that by the year 2000 there will be about 300 million "surplus" farmers.

Newspapers have recorded hundreds of rural riots and demonstrations in some of which thousands of peasants have attacked government offices in protest against corrupt rural officials who they claim use state funds, earmarked to pay peasants, for banquets and personal cars.

Last week in Liaoning province, in the northeast of the country, the local radio conceded: "We have overestimated the degree of prosperity of peasants since the commencement of rural reform [in 1979].

"Although there have been bumper harvests for four years, only a small number of peasants have truly become well-off. Most have just enough to eat and wear. Many are still struggling against hunger and cold."

☐ **Airport warning:** Peking warned Hong Kong against pressing ahead with the construction of its new airport before full agreement is reached on its financing. "Unilateral actions will do no good to the settlement of financial arrangements," Wu Jianmin, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, said. *(AFP)*

YOUR CHANCE TO BE IN THE MOVIES



"Chasing the Deer" is a major new feature film being made in Scotland.
It stars Brian Blessed, Iain Cuthbertson, Bill Connolly, Jake D'Arcy and Fish *(of Marillion fame)*.



Finance for the film is being raised by public subscription whereby members of the public can become Associate Producers of *Chasing the Deer*.

CHASING THE DEER
A story of the 'forty five

Investment as an Associate Producer is open to both companies and individuals. Being an Associate Producer entitles you to a share of the profits in the film, but more importantly it also guarantees two places for the Black Tie Gala preview screening.

puts your name in the credits and lets you appear in the film as an extra in either the crowd or battle scenes.

This is your last chance to register for a prospectus and introductory video giving full details of investment opportunities in this important film. Remaining places are strictly limited so don't delay, fill in the coupon below and return it today.



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Ciampi's offer to resign clears way for spring election

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

CARLO Azeglio Ciampi, the Italian Prime Minister, offered his resignation to President Scalfaro yesterday, paving the way for a spring general election to replace a corruption-ridden parliament.

The head of state reserved his decision on whether to accept the resignation of the former central bank governor, the Quirinal Palace said last night. Signor Ciampi offered to stand down after parliament debated a no-confidence motion in his eight-month-old government that was conceived as an interim administration to pass political and economic reforms.

President Scalfaro is expected to dissolve parliament and set a date for the election to replace hundreds of MPs under investigation in the bribery scandal that has convulsed the country for nearly two years. In all, a fifth of parliamentarians are under enquiry in the "Operation Clean Hands" that has ushered in what Italians call their *dolce rivoluzione* (sweet revolution) in political life.

The election is a crucial stage in the radical process of political transition that will determine whether Italy will emerge as one of the strongest countries in the European Community, or be shunted aside by Brussels as a Latin American-style banana republic beset by Mafia crime, commentators say. It was not immediately clear whether the President would accept the resignation of the Prime Minister. If so, Signor Ciampi would remain in a caretaker capacity until the election, expected to be held on March 27.

At the end of the no-confidence debate, Signor Ciampi said parliament was too divided over the preferred date of the election to continue its work. "I cannot but take note of the profound division in parliament," he told the Chamber of Deputies.

The parties most damaged by the scandal, the Christian Democrats and Socialists, supported the no-confidence motion in the hope it might delay the election in which most of their MPs are likely to lose seats. But the favourites to win the contest, the former communist Democratic Party of the Left and left-wing allies, want the polls to be held as soon as possible.

In spite of the resignation offer by Signor Ciampi, the old parties kept up their delaying tactics to give them more time to reorganise. In a Byzantine manoeuvre, the sponsor of the no-confidence motion, Marco Pannella, the Radical leader, withdrew it at the end of the debate so a vote was unnecessary. But the Christian Democrats presented another motion expressing full confidence in Signor Ciampi. This second motion was suspended.

Italian public opinion has been clamouring for an early election to replace the parliament elected in April 1992 when the *tangentopoli* (bribe city) corruption scandal was in its infant stages. The graft investigation ended the political careers of the men who dominated postwar Italian political life, including Giulio Andreotti, the Christian Democrat elder statesman, and Bettino Craxi, the former Socialist Prime Minister.

The election will be held for the first time under a mainly English-style first-past-the post system introduced by a new electoral law passed to replace the discredited old proportional representation system, considered a main cause of political corruption. The reform bill was passed after a referendum last April overwhelmingly called for a change in the electoral system. The referendum was organised by Mario Segni, a former Christian Democrat MP, who is the main conservative contender to lead a moderate, liberal-democrat alliance government.

Respected Prime Minister shuns Italy's political fray

BY JOHN PHILLIPS

MAN IN THE NEWS

AS ITALY'S first Prime Minister not beholden to a political party, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi has provided a steady hand steering the country out of the worst emergency in the troubled postwar republic.

The 73-year-old former central bank governor created a "cabinet of professors" packed with some of the best minds from Italian universities last April, replacing Giuliano Amato, his Socialist predecessor who stepped aside to make way for electoral reform. President Scalfaro said at the time that the task of the new government was "to ferry Italy from the old to the new".

Signor Ciampi clearly has achieved his main objectives as the technocratic, highly-respected head of his transition administration. Parliament has passed an electoral law introducing a mainly first-past-the post system. Signor Ciampi has also secured parliamentary approval for his 1994 austerity budget to reduce the huge government deficit and public debt, and he has set in motion the ambitious privatisation programme drawn up by Signor Amato. Inevitably there has been criticism that Signor Ciampi has not gone far enough and has been content with a "half revolution" when Italians were clamouring for greater change.

The scandal-tainted Christian Democrats retained dominant posts in his cabinet. Signor Ciampi clearly had to make some concessions to the old order. By offering his resignation yesterday to clear the way for a landmark general election, the Prime Minister has once again showed his *intention to remain outside* the political fray.



Signor Ciampi listening to MPs debate yesterday



President Clinton, wearing a fox-fur hat against the cold of a Russian winter, waving to a welcoming crowd in the centre of Moscow yesterday

Wary Americans tread Russian tightrope

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN MOSCOW

■ The Moscow summit had been intended as a celebration of a reformist poll victory. In the event, President Clinton was forced to draw the ultra-nationalists' sting

PRESIDENT Clinton, on his first day in Moscow, did his utmost to boost Russia's embattled President Yeltsin yesterday without further inflaming the anti-Western sentiment that Vladimir Zhirinovsky's ultra-nationalists so successfully exploited in last month's elections.

On the opening day of a summit that had been planned as a celebration of an anticipated reformist victory, the US President was compelled instead to try to draw the ultra-nationalists' sting by rebutting the notion of Russia being a supplicant of America and subtly denouncing Mr Zhirinovsky's extremism, racial intolerance and territorial aggression.

Mr Clinton did not mention Mr Zhirinovsky by name, but during a brief welcoming ceremony at the Kremlin he referred three times to Russia's greatness, and portrayed Russia as a genuine and equal partner in a joint drive for global security and freedom.

At last night's US embassy reception for 200 prominent Russians, Mr Clinton acknowledged his guests' diverse political views and urged a shared devotion to democratic values. He argued *that a nation's greatness was* measured not by territorial gains but by how well it provided for its people. Russia's future was for Russians to decide. "American support can certainly not make all the difference, and American direction is unwarranted . . . but I come to say, from the bottom of my heart, the people of the US and the President of the US wish to be your partners and your friends."

The two Presidents are expected today to announce that US and Russian nuclear missiles will no longer be aimed at each other and they will sign an agreement with President Kravchuk of Ukraine to dismantle that country's nuclear arsenal, but yesterday's meetings were devoted largely to economic issues.

Mr Yeltsin assured Mr Clinton that his economic reforms would continue unabated and would in some fields be intensified, despite last month's poll setbacks. Mr Clinton offered no new aid package, but the two men discussed at length how existing American and international *assistance programmes* might be accelerated.



Zhirinovsky: target of subtle denunciation

Officials said both sides agreed on the need to do more to control inflation, and instead of spending huge sums propping up inefficient state-owned industries to spend more to help victims of their restructuring. Mr Clinton urged Mr Yeltsin to take additional fiscal and regulatory steps to encourage foreign investement and both pledged to try to lower trade barriers.

Diary, page 14
Letters, page 15

Zhirinovsky's spirit hangs over Moscow champagne parties

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

Vladimir Zhirinovsky was not deemed a fit guest at the reception for over 200 of Russia's top political and cultural figures hosted by President Clinton in the American ambassador's residence yesterday, but that did not prevent the ghost of his disruptive influence hovering over the summit.

The White House took the controversial decision of inviting Aleksei Mitrofanov, a close aide to Mr Zhirinovsky and a Liberal Democrat member of the Duma, but barred the demagogue himself from Moscow's party of the year. The neo-Fascist leader promptly rose to the occasion by throwing a tantrum on the floor of the parliament to upstage the summit in terms of domestic interest and recommended that his political rivals should receive psychiatric treatment.

In fact, President Clinton had underlined his intention to widen communication channels beyond the radical democrats of Mr Yeltsin's tightly knit entourage. Gennadi Zhuganov, the Communist leader, and his ally from the Agrarian Party, Mikhail Lapshin, were invited for champagne and caviar together with the editors of the hardline *Prawda* and *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, and a host of alternative reformers and regional leaders. Mr Clinton eventually retired to the relative peace of a formal Kremlin dinner with his host.

Mr Yeltsin met his guests under the vast twinkling chandeliers of the Kremlin Great Hall. The quarrelsome cabinet, led by Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, who has taken to saying loudly that he wants to hinder "ill-considered leaps forward", looked on inscrutably. Despite his relaxed air Mr Yeltsin seemed keen to convey that the relationship was one of dignified equals.

One thing that George Bush evidently forgot to tell his successor was that it is both wise and courteous to bring your own fur hat to a winter summit in Moscow.

Bare-headed despite the freezing cold, President Clinton was shown round the Kremlin courtyard by his equally hatless host. Russian politeness has it that you should never wear the *shapka* if your guest does not have one, so the excursion was reduced to a ten-minute trot which left Mr Clinton rubbing red ears. He was later found a fetching grey fox fur with ear flaps.

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Mitsotakis faces phone tap enquiry

FROM REUTER IN ATHENS

GREECE'S ruling Socialists took the first step yesterday towards lifting the parliamentary immunity of Constantine Mitsotakis, the former conservative Prime Minister, in connection with allegations of illegal telephone tapping.

Fifty-nine Socialist deputies presented a formal petition to the president of the 300-seat parliament calling for an enquiry, starting a procedure that could lead to a criminal trial.

A special investigating magistrate sent parliament a report in December saying there was evidence that Mr Mitsotakis and Dora Bakoyianni, his daughter, were directly or indirectly involved in repeated "violation of telephone calls . . . and tapes obtained in illegal ways". In his report, Achilleas Dafoulis said that among those whose telephones were tapped, from 1988 to 1991, were Andreas Papandreou, the Socialist Prime Minister, reporters and an array of politicians.

Both Mr Mitsotakis, whose conservative government was defeated in elections last October, and his daughter, a conservative deputy and former culture minister, were named in the petition. A debate and a vote on the motion must be held within 15 days. The Socialists have a comfortable majority in parliament and are expected to approve the petition.

Mr Mitsotakis and his daughter have denied any wrongdoing and said they welcomed the investigation.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tuzla mayor makes urgent plea for aid

Belgrade: In a desperate appeal from the beleaguered government stronghold of Tuzla, the mayor said his people faced an imminent catastrophe and demanded that Nato make good a UN *resolution declaring it a* "safe area", Tim Judah writes. The appeal, made by Selim Beslagic, came as Bosnian Serb forces boasted that their forces had made major advances close to the city.

Link delayed

Stockholm: Sweden has again postponed a decision on the building of a bridge and tunnel link between Malmo and the Danish capital, Copenhagen.

Leading article, page 15

Four branded

Delhi: Four young women arrested by Punjab's police have had the word "pickpocket" tattooed on their foreheads — the first recorded example of branding in Indian legal and criminal history.

Border closed

Islamabad: Pakistan has closed its main crossing point on the Afghan border, at Torkham, in an attempt to halt thousands of Afghan refugees fleeing the factional fighting in Kabul. *(AFP)*

Trailer tragedy

Budapest: Eleven people were killed when metal sheets slid off a lorry's trailer and hit a bus in southwest Hungary. Police said a cable holding nearly six tonnes of sheet metal became loose. *(Reuter)*

President's gamble in accepting independent investigation blunts Republican attacks

First Lady finds herself in Whitewater spotlight

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU AND IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

NEW allegations in the Whitewater scandal are focusing increasingly on the role played by Hillary Clinton and her former law firm in Little Rock, Arkansas.

America's Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, which insures depositors against loss, launched an investigation into whether it had been misled by the Rose law firm, in which Mrs Clinton was a partner.

The corporation suspects that the firm failed to declare a conflict of interest when it applied to represent the corporation in the lawsuit against Madison Guaranty, the Arkansas savings and loan company run by a business associate of the Clintons.

The alleged conflict of interest relates to a legal dispute in 1984 involving a stock issue, during which Mrs Clinton represented Madison in return for a monthly retainer fee of $2,000 (£1,300). But in 1989 Vincent Foster, the former White House deputy counsel who committed suicide last year and who was also a partner in the Rose law firm, applied to the corporation for the contract to represent it in its action against Madison.

For a law firm to sue a former client is generally considered to be a potential conflict of interest, which a suitor would need to be made aware of. In that case the firm would have been in breach of federal criminal law, which makes it illegal to hide a material fact in a declaration to the government or its agencies, such as the corporation.

In his application, Mr Foster stated that "the firm does not represent any savings and loan associations in state or federal regulatory matters". His claim is technically correct, since he used the present tense, but earlier Rose had represented an association in a state and federal regulatory matter.

The failure by Mrs Clinton's firm to declare the conflict of interest led to an outcry among commentators. In one of the most scathing remarks, William Safire, a right-wing columnist for *The New York Times*, said about Mrs Clinton that "she does not want those Whitewater and Madison papers exposed because they may show her to be not merely an inept wheeler-dealer, but an occasionally less than competent attorney whose law partner could not bear the prospect of disgrace".

However, the President's gamble of agreeing to an independent investigation of the Whitewater affair succeeded yesterday in blunting Republicans' demands for far-reaching, televised congressional hearings.

Mr Clinton's fellow Democrats were quick to insist that his abandonment of his earlier opposition to the appointment of a special counsel enabled them to avoid setting up select committees along the lines of the Watergate and Iran-Contra scandals.

Most Americans are still struggling to grasp the financial complexities of Whitewater, an umbrella term covering allegations that funds from a now bankrupt savings and loan institution in Arkansas may have been diverted to property owned by the Clintons — the Clintons are said to have been invited to invest in the Whitewater Development Corporation by an Arkansas businessman, James McDougal — and to repay debts from his 1984 campaign for Governor.

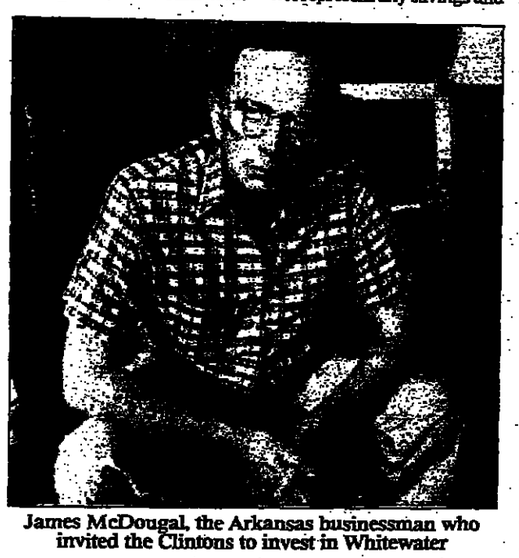
But while Americans may not understand the affair, three out of five feel there should be a special counsel, according to a *Washington Post*-ABC News poll.

Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, has promised a "ruggedly independent" special counsel and was combing through lists of candidates yesterday in search of someone with irreproachable legal qualifications and devoid of political partisanship.

Special counsel are an institution dating back more than 100 years. They are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Attorney-General to investigate a single set of circumstances. Special counsel differ from independent counsel, which were created under a post-Watergate law that has now expired but may be renewed by the Congress next month.

Under that law, independent counsel were appointed by and were answerable only to a panel of federal judges. The key difference is that, although special counsel work for the Justice Department, independent counsel are free from all political or government ties.

The change of law was considered necessary because Richard Nixon dismissed the special counsel investigating Watergate at the height of the scandal. Since then, the best known use of a special counsel was the investigation 15 years ago into dubious loans to Jimmy Carter's peanut business and allegations that they may have been diverted to his presidential campaign funds.



James McDougal, the Arkansas businessman who invited the Clintons to invest in Whitewater



Hillary Clinton, who is at the centre of allegations that her former law firm misled an insurance corporation

How trail of Arkansas scandal led to the White House

BY WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

■ A deal that seemed to mix business with politics in Little Rock has set Washington alarm bells ringing, with vanishing files and a suicide adding to the speculation

THE "Whitewatergate" scandal focuses on the business relationship between Bill and Hillary Clinton and James McDougal, an Arkansas businessman.

In 1978, just before Mr Clinton was about to secure his first two-year term as Governor, Mr McDougal offered the Clintons a stake in a property company, Whitewater Development Corporation, which bought land for development in the Ozark mountains. The Clintons say they were passive investors and that they lost money. President Clinton called it "a bad business deal".

Back in 1978, Whitewater looked like a good speculative investment. Mr Clinton returned favours by offering Mr McDougal a job in his first administration. Mr McDougal developed an interest in banking and in 1982 (after Mr Clinton had briefly been out of office) Mr McDougal bought Madison Guaranty, then a tiny savings and loan company. Mr McDougal increased the company's assets from $3 million to more than $100 million within three years.

The rest is a typical savings and loans disaster story. In all those years Madison made a series of loans, including to its directors and their family friends. In 1985, when it was already in trouble, Madison even held a fund-raising party for Mr Clinton to help him pay back a bank loan. By then investigators had already been looking at Madison, but it was not until 1989 that they finally closed it down. The Resolution Trust Company, in charge of cleaning up the savings mess, saw a possible connection between Madison and Whitewater. The Clintons were listed as possible beneficiaries. Mr McDougal was charged with fraud. He was cleared in 1990. The most damaging allegation so far is that Mr Clinton may have received irregular loans from Madison to finance his re-election campaign in 1984.

There has speculation whether Whitewater was used a shell company to divert funds. Since depositors' assets were guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), this allegation would imply that the American taxpayer funded Mr Clinton's campaigns. The total cost of the Madison bankruptcy was about $60 billion (£40 billion).

Another damaging allegation is that Governor Clinton and his appointees provided preferential treatment to Madison. On one occasion, a Clinton-appointed securities regulator cleared Madison's application to raise new funds through preferred stock. The lawyer who represented Madison before the regulators was Hillary Clinton and the letter which approved the stock sale, appropriately began with "Dear Hillary". Mrs Clinton worked for Madison on a retainer of $2,000 a month. Mr McDougal said this happened on Governor Clinton's request. Mr Clinton denies this. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation is investigating Mrs Clinton's law firm amid suspicions that the firm made false statements in 1989. The Rose law firm represented the corporation against Madison, but failed to disclose that Madison had previously been a client of Mrs Clinton. Potentially most disturbing of all is the question of a link between the Whitewater-Madison scandals and the suicide last July of Vince Foster, the White House lawyer who held files of both companies in his office. The official version was that his death was the result of depression and his seeming inability to cope with the strains of life in Washington. But questions have arisen whether his suicide might have may be connected to Whitewater and Madison. Several Whitewater files have gone missing. In 1987 Mrs Clinton reportedly asked for the files to be delivered to the Governor's mansion in Little Rock. After weeks of prevarication, Mr Clinton finally agreed to appoint a special counsel to investigate the entire issue.

Bodyguard 'admits' to attack on US skater

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

POLICE said arrests were imminent yesterday after the bodyguard of a rival figure skater allegedly confessed to helping her husband hire a hit man to disable Nancy Kerrigan, the Olympic gold-medal hopeful.

A man beat Ms Kerrigan on the knees with a telescopic truncheon last week as she practised for the US figure-skating championship in Detroit, the qualifying event for a place in the American team at next month's Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway. Ms Kerrigan had to withdraw from the event — although the US Olympic Committee awarded her one of the two places in the team — and the championship went to Tonya Harding, her arch-rival.

Now Shawn Eric Eckhardt, Ms Harding's bodyguard, claims that Jeff Gillooly, the skater's husband, asked him to find a hit man to carry out the attack for $100,000 (£67,000). According to news reports, Mr Eckhardt took a tape recording of a conversation about the plot to Eugene Saunders, a clergyman, who then relayed the contents of the tape to Gary Crowe, a private investigator, and the FBI. Mr Crowe claimed that Mr Saunders identified the voices on the tape as those of Ms Harding's husband, her bodyguard and the attacker.

Ms Harding has denied vigorously that she plotted to disable her rival. Police do not believe she was involved, and the US Olympic committee said her participation in the Games should not be affected.

Camera captures an early Lincoln

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN NEW YORK

A PIONEERING photographer didn't catch the young man saying cheese 150 years ago, perhaps lending credibility to claims that his small antique picture is the earliest known photo of Abraham Lincoln.

There is the faintest hint of a smile on the man's face, but the overall look in the wallet-size photo is similar to the more sombre-faced presidential photographs. The image is "uncannily Lincolnesque", Harold Holzer, a Lincoln scholar, wrote in America's *Heritage* magazine. "I'm sure it's the real McCoy," Mr Holzer said, calling the work priceless.

If the photo was taken in 1843, as a photography historian, Joseph Bruberger, estimated, Lincoln, who was President from 1861 until his assassination in 1865, would have been 34 years old.

Mr Bruberger was consulted by the current owners of the photo, Robert and Joan Hoffman, who bought it from a dealer. The picture was previously owned by Alice Hay Wadsworth, the daughter of John Milton Hay, Lincoln's assistant White House secretary, Mr Holzer wrote.

Lewis Sadler, a professor at the University of Illinois, conducted a computer test on the image, comparing it with three known photos of Lincoln and 300 other pictures. The test rejected all the other images, but accepted the Hoffmans' photo.



Experts say this is the earliest photograph of Abraham Lincoln, taken in 1843 when he was 34

Koresh disciples 'executed' cultists injured in gunfight

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN SAN ANTONIO

FOLLOWING a "theology of death" laid down by David Koresh, members of the Branch Davidian cult killed wounded fellow cultists after the initial gun battle at the Mount Carmel compound near Waco, Texas, last February, according to federal prosecutors.

Those charges and numerous other details of the bizarre and violent life within the compound were laid out by Ray Jahn, the prosecutor, during opening arguments in the trial in San Antonio of 11 cult members, including three Britons, accused of conspiring to murder agents of the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF).

"They not only killed ATF, they killed their own," Mr Jahn said. "People who were too wounded to fight were put out of their misery ... executed by their fellow Branch Davidians."

Four ATF agents and at least six cult members died after armed agents attacked the compound at dawn on February 28 last year, in an attempt to arrest Koresh on arms charges. Mr Jahn said he would prove that the fire, which broke out at the end of the 51-day siege leaving more than 80 cult members dead, was started deliberately by the cult to fulfil Koresh's apocalyptic prophesies.

Tapes of conversations within the compound made by the FBI include phrases such as "spread the fuel" and "start the fire". Mr Jahn said. In one chilling exchange, one cult member is heard telling another "in a laughing, joking manner, 'Well, you always wanted to be a charcoal briquette'." More than 20 children died in the blaze.

Defence lawyers, however, painted a starkly different picture of the 11 defendants, all of whom face life imprisonment if convicted. The lawyers described their clients as humble, religious people opposed to violence.

Renos Avraam, a 29-year-old computer programmer from London, was motivated by simple religious belief, his lawyer, John Carroll, said.

Another Briton, Norman Allison, had fallen out with Koresh and was saving money to go home, according to his lawyer, Tim Evans. Mr Allison, a rock musician, had joined the cult in the hope of attaining stardom in Koresh's band. The third Briton, Livingston Fagan, was described simply as a theology student and social worker.

But pointing to the charred weapons in court, Mr Jahn insisted: "These are not religious items. These are weapons of war ... they were not Bible students but were part of this conspiracy." He said the evidence he plans to present will "put a firearm in each of the hands of the accused".

Shuttle cured Hubble's troubles

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

WORK by a shuttle crew to repair the blurred vision of the Hubble space telescope last month was declared a success by Nasa yesterday. As a result, the telescope should soon be ready to begin the search for black holes deep in the universe.

The space-walking efforts of the astronauts on board the shuttle *Endeavour* were a "magnificent achievement", Daniel Goldin, administrator of Nasa at the Goddard Space Centre outside Washington, said. He added that the wonders seen by the repaired Hubble and the anticipated discoveries were examples of exploration at its best.

"The trouble with Hubble is over," said Barbara Mikulski, a Democratic senator who is chairman of a congressional committee that oversees Nasa. During the repairs the astronauts inserted a new camera and other instruments to compensate for flaws in Hubble's primary mirror.

Hubble was designed to provide sharp images of objects in space as far as 15 billion light years away, including black holes where gravitational forces are too strong to let any light escape. But Hubble's flaws had limited observations to closer, brighter objects. Although the shuttle flight was thought to have gone perfectly, it has taken until now to test all Hubble's systems.

The Hubble repairs have been seen as crucial to restoring Nasa's reputation after a series of setbacks since that began with the explosion of the *Challenger* shuttle during lift-off in 1986.

Photograph, page 20

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As MPs prepare to decide the age of homosexual consent, **Matthew d'Ancona** reports on the debate

'Is it part of the State's task to regulate sexual behaviour?'


WAYNE TIPPETTS

Is homosexuality, as some philosophers argue, a travesty of human nature? At Crews bar in Leicester Square, London, gay men demand sexual equality and a single age of consent

Champions of a lower age of consent for homosexuals could scarcely have been granted a less propitious moment to press their case in Parliament. Nervous of moralising aloud after the "back-to-basics" débâcle, MPs will probably seek the line of least resistance when they vote on the proposed amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill. Political calculation is likely to obscure ethical analysis.

Though the tendency to recoil from discussion of this complex issue is inevitable, the differences that mark the various factions in the debate are real. They should not be forgotten in the quest for a politically acceptable reform of the 1967 Sexual Offences Act.

The extreme positions are clear. On the one hand, committed libertarians say the State should not intervene in sexual morality at all, or at *least as little as possible; the* merits, social acceptability and medical risks of homosexuality are beside the point. It is not the State's task to regulate sexual behaviour, and any measure which reduces its intervention deserves support.

At the opposite pole stands *the natural law tradition.* Scholarly adherents of this form of Conservative thinking, such as John Finnis, Professor of Law at Oxford University, invoke Plato, Xenophon and Aristotle to argue that homosexuality is a travesty of man's nature.

"A political community that judges that the stability and educative generosity of family life is of fundamental importance", Professor Finnis has argued, "can rightly judge that it has a compelling interest in doing whatever it can to discourage [homosexual] conduct." The objective of this moral tradition is to make the definition of crime as close as possible to the definition of sin. It follows that any attempt to liberalise supposedly immoral sexual practices must be fiercely resisted.

But most contributors to the debate stand somewhere be*tween the extreme libertarian* and natural law positions. The key text remains the 1957 Wolfenden report, which said that the State should try to avoid intervention in citizens' private lives; but that it also has a duty "to preserve public order and decency, to protect *the citizen from what is offen*sive or injurious, and to provide sufficient safeguards against exploitation and corruption of others . . ."

Those who believe that the homosexual age of consent should be lowered from 21 to 16 claim that this balance of responsibilities would not be threatened by such a reform. It is preposterous, they say, that 16 and 17-year-olds can marry, raise a family, start a business and serve in the army but cannot legally sleep with a man; that homosexuals under 21 who seek medical advice or professional counselling risk incriminating themselves; and that Britain has the highest age of homosexual consent in Europe.

Led in Parliament by Edwina Currie, advocates of a reduction to 16 contend that sexual orientation is, by this age, determined. If homosexuality is the product of nature or childhood nurture, they say, there is no point in shielding young men from gay influences; reducing the age of consent to 16 would be unlikely to *alignment the numbers of those permanently converted to a* homosexual way of life, assuming such an increase were judged undesirable.

In 1979, the Home Office advisory committee on sexual offences published a report on this issue, concluding that the homosexual age of consent should be lowered to 18. A minority of the committee went further, however, and advocated that 16 should be the minimum age for gays, as well as for heterosexuals. They were unimpressed by the claim that such a reform would betray vulnerable young people and encourage predatory sexual behaviour. Young victims of unwanted advances, they argued, were sufficiently protected by laws on assault and mental health legislation. More recently, Sir Ian McKellen, the Stonewall reform group campaigner who met John Major at Downing Street in 1991, has suggested that a reduction to 16 should be accompanied by legislation creating a special offence of seducing a minor by deceit, gifts, promises or abuse of influence.

A good Fabian strategist would probably recommend an initial reduction to 18 as an achievable and uncontroversial staging post to further reform. This may be the view of the Commons when it comes to vote. But the vital differences between the arguments for 16 and 18 should not be ignored.

Supporters of a reduction to 18 accept that the 1967 law is outdated but share the Wolfenden report's view that "a boy is incapable, at the age of 16, of forming a mature judgment about actions of a kind which might have the effect of setting him apart from *the rest of society". They cite* psychological evidence that boys mature more slowly and that a minority of male teenagers are still undecided in their sexuality by the age of 18.

The case for partial reform is supported by many police-men, who fear that a reduction to 16 might increase prostitution among boys and complicate the detection and prosecution of paedophiles. The fact that a higher proportion of young men between 16 and 25 contract HIV than in any other age group has also persuaded some that 18 is the right compromise. Against this, gay campaigners claim that the removal of restrictions merely increases homosexuals' honesty and willingness to seek medical help. The criminalisation of homosexual activity involving young men, they claim, has discouraged openness about Aids and hastened its spread.

But the most important distinction between the respective arguments for 16 and 18 involves the cultural status of homosexuality. By standardising the age of consent at 16, society would remove its last sanction against sex between men and adopt a neutral position. Homosexuality would no longer be a deviation to be tolerated. The normative status of hetrosexual, procreative love would be rescinded.

It is this that advocates of 18 are not prepared to do — at least, not yet. They share the view of the 1979 Home Office committee that homosexuality is "more likely to lead to unhappiness" and that its alleged cost — childlessness, mental instability, sequestration from ordinary society — is too high for the State to adopt a neutral position. Paradoxically, the growth of gay activism and the success of gay campaigning have strengthened the opinion of many people that homosexuality is a consuming pathological condition, a separate way of life, rather than merely one component of a person's identity.

But should homosexuality still be treated in this way? Should it continue to be a factor in the relationship between individual and State? Though the House of Commons will doubtless vote pragmatically, it is these fundamental issues that will underpin its deliberations.

'A political community can judge that it has a compelling interest in doing whatever it can to discourage such conduct'
JOHN FINNIS

'The State has a duty to preserve public order and decency and to provide safeguards against corruption of others'
WOLFENDEN REPORT

'Homosexuality is more likely to lead to unhappiness and its alleged cost is too high for the State to stay neutral'
HOME OFFICE, 1979



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Dr Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury

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Pop goes the poet

"SAY, Britain could you ever boast,/ Three poets in an age at most?" asked Jonathan Swift in 1733. Swift was being characteristically gloomy. In 1994, Britain can claim at least a dozen fine poets, such as Seamus Heaney, James Fenton, Douglas Dunn, Ted Hughes, Charles Causley and Sir Stephen Spender.

In the year 2003, such a list may include Robert Crawford, David Dabydeen and Lavinia Greenlaw. Such, at least, is the *hope of the Poetry Society,* which launched a campaign on Wednesday to make these names as well known as Kate Bush or Bruce Springsteen.

Crawford, Dabydeen and Greenlaw are three of 20 British poets who have been plucked from the world of alternative bookshops and back room pub readings, by a panel chaired by the broadcaster and author Melvyn Bragg, to be groomed for stardom.

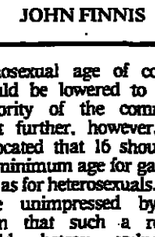
Whatever their feelings for each other, they can expect to spend a lot of time together over the next 12 months, huddling up at every photo opportunity. They will also have to swallow their much-vaunted street credibility and tune their radio dials to the uncharted airwaves of Radio 1, which for two weeks in May, will broadcast one of their poems an hour, 24 hours a day.

Such indignities will be rewarded, however, by a huge increase in sales. At the moment most of the New Generation cannot make a living from their writing. Simon Armitage — acknowledged by most to be the star of the list — is a probation officer, Ian Duhig is a drugs probation officer and many others have posts as writers in residence at universities.

Consequently, most poets are delighted with the new scheme. "Anything that draws attention to poetry is a good thing," says Craig Raine, the poet and former poetry editor at Faber and Faber.

Young poets are being groomed like rock stars

Some are not so sure. "My first instinct is that all publicity *is good publicity," says* Sir Kingsley Amis. "But after that you begin to wonder. I think the idea is misconceived and rather sinister. It's making



JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

poetry into just one other fun thing, another part of the media, like pop records. Not that I have anything against pop music, but it's on a different level to that.

"Poetry should be difficult and hard to convey to the public. Anything that is read aloud loses something. Philip Larkin never went to poetry readings, because he said that was not a good way to take it in. To appreciate the virtues of a great poet, like Wordsworth or Keats, you need to stare at the page and think for a long time, until you get to know the poem well."

Andrew McAllister of Bloodaxe Books, in Newcastle, Britain's largest independent poetry publisher, which has many members of the New Generation on its list, agrees with Sir Kingsley. "Poetry is a reading activity; it's more than pop entertainment. But the whole point of this push is to get people to the bookshops, where they can buy something that will stay with them for life."

Whatever the experts think, the punters want more live poetry. Readings are becoming increasingly popular. Recently, MTV departed from its normal schedule of 24-hour *pop videos to show a pro*gramme called *Spoken Word Unplugged*, in which several poets performed in a "coffee-house setting". It was so popular that a second is being planned. Poets hope that the first T.S. Eliot prize, to be awarded next week for the best collection of new poetry over the last 12 months, will bring their art the same sort of razzmatazz that surrounds the Booker prize for fiction.

"I'm not surprised pop music fans love poetry," says Martha Smart, of the Poetry Book Society. "Most modern verse is so rhythmical. It can be very funny and it deals with important world issues. It's a world away from the soppy love verses that some people imagine."

In any case, many modern poets have been more influenced by Chuck Berry and Elvis Costello than Shakespeare and Shelley. "I'm a big fan of Bob Dylan and Tom Waits and I was listening to them more than I was reading poetry when I started," says Glyn Maxwell, another member of the top 20. Don Paterson, also on the list, boosts his income by playing the guitar and Michael Donaghy is a folk rocker.

Dylan, it seems, was not joking when he sang: "I'm a poet. I know it. Hope I don't blow it."

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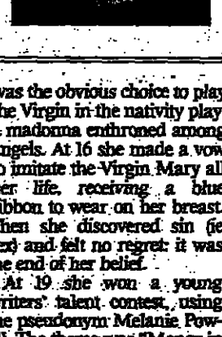
Sex, symbols and the fallen Virgin

When Marina Warner was invited to deliver the Reith lectures, she thought someone had made a mistake


MARTIN BEDDALL

Marina Warner — her heart-shaped face and La Gioconda smile made her the obvious choice to play the Virgin. And then she discovered sex

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



The clear, girlish voice of Marina Warner will soon deliver this year's Reith lectures on Radio 4. She is only the second woman in 47 years to do so, putting her in the dilemma she most fears: to be "the *woman* Reith lecturer", judged *differently* from her predecessors (Professor Edward Said, Professor Steve Jones, etc.) "so that it is impossible not to stand or fall as a champion of my cause, my sex."

Never mind: she decided to overlook the tokenism, to submerge her naturally placid temperament and to embark on "Managing Monsters: Six Myths of Our Time" with a combative first lecture on lone mothers, "the most demonised figure of our day".

"People complain that women are partisan, whingeing, whining etc., but this is a perfect example. The BBC is a fine institution which I care very deeply about, yet the striking absence of women reproduces very clearly the prejudices of the country."

Julian Barnes has written of Marina Warner's "incandescent intelligence and Apulian beauty". Somehow she has managed not to let the Apulian beauty obscure the incandescent intelligence. At Oxford, the prettiest undergraduate of her generation, she also edited *Isis*. Last year, describing her perfect weekend in *The Times*, she said she would spend it in a cupboard in the British Museum with the Prince of Wales, whom she would tickle with a feather until he agreed to save the Reading Room.

She was born in 1946, two months before Bertrand Russell delivered the first Reith lectures on "Authority and the Individual". When the only other woman (Marjorie Perham) gave her Reith lectures in 1961, nobody thought it worth remarking. "Things have become so polarised, so acutely polemical, in spite of all the gains, it now seems even more dog-on-hind-legs than 33 years ago . . ." At first, she thought they had asked her by mistake: did they intend to get Mary Warnock perhaps?

She grew up abroad: her earliest memory is of her father's English bookshop in Cairo being burnt down in the nationalist riots of 1952, cultural benevolence confronting hard political reality. Her mother is Italian. She was brought up a Roman Catholic (Lord Longford is her godfather) her Protestant father declaring that it was "a very good religion *for a girl*". "Meaning," she says, "it taught feminine qualities, meekness, submissiveness, desirability disinfected from the dangers of sexuality." Like so many convent girls — at St Mary's Ascot she was in the same class as Sarah Hogg — she was a devout Marjolater. With her heart-shaped face and La Gioconda smile she was the obvious choice to play the Virgin in the nativity play, a madonna enthroned among angels. At 16 she made a vow to imitate the Virgin Mary all her life, receiving a blue ribbon to wear on her breast. Then she discovered sin (ie sex) and felt no regret: it was the end of her belief.

At 19 she won a young writers' talent contest, using the pseudonym Melanie Powell. The theme was "Money in Britain today"; she wrote about being a rich young girl for whom the refrain, when *going into shops*, was, "Yes, madam. Whatever madam wants".

Since then, she has become a woman of letters, the sort constantly invited to be in residence: the Getty scholar in California, the Tinbergen professor in Rotterdam. Her subject is the contemporary interpretation of historical, mythical icons and cultural symbols. With interludes for novels and children's books, her biographical studies have been the last Empress of China, Joan of Arc, Margaret Thatcher ("a brilliant example of how feminine wiles could be used for masculine ends") and the Virgin Mary in *Alone Of All Her Sex*. While she was writing that, the face of Antonia Fraser appeared to her in a nightmare saying sweetly, "I'm terribly sorry, but none of the arguments work".

Despite being lapsed from Our Lady, and divorced from the writer William Shawcross, she married her second husband, the painter John Dewe Matthews, in the local Catholic church, abetted by Cardinal Hume, who had been her husband's housemaster at Ampleforth. The wedding was at the Church of Our *Lady Help of Christians*, where Mr Dewe Matthews — a saintly figure who climbed four flights of stairs to bring us pâté and pistachio nuts in her attic study, lashed by wind and rain on a dark and stormy night — still attends Mass each Sunday.

One of her more bizarre appointments was to the advisory board of the Royal Mint, which decides the designs on coins. She happened to sit next to John Porteous, the numismatist, at a dinner; they discussed the Masonic symbolism of the American dollar bill. Ms Warner was just the person to replace the late John Betjeman, he decided. At first, the then Chancellor Nigel Lawson demurred, fearing her Liberal views. But she was possibly salvaged by her impeccable credentials as the granddaughter of Sir Pelham (Plum) Warner, the great cricket captain, after whom the Warner stand at Lord's is named.

And so to the Reith lectures, a look at how ancient myths persist in contemporary popular culture. First, the independent woman, a monstrous creature, as in Greek myth, causing chaos and needing to be tamed. Even in *Jurassic Park*, the dinosaurs were female velociraptors: cunning, nippy, and voraciously fertile . . . Media and Tory ministers, she notes, see teenage mothers as opportunistic welfare swindlers, spawning child murderers, breeding monsters, a "chronic scaremongering, a quagmire of prejudice" about wild *female* sexuality and aberrant maternity.

Myth two is the bogey figure, the violent young thug, who stops women from walking *out at night*. "I can't deny the danger, but the fear is far in excess of the actual threat.

"I actually shook and trembled when I wrote this one because I try to defend the archetypal mythical male against the assaults of popular culture which give boys such a distorted and limited idea of what masculinity is." At the Future Entertainment fair at Olympia, she immersed herself in the kind of video games her son Conrad (now 16 and at Westminster) would play, with their street-fighting heroics, "completely useless in terms of survival skills, and of emotions, and quite inimical to the varieties of masculinity you find in any group of men. Where is the suggestion that a boy of 12 might curl up with *Jane Eyre*, or make dresses?"

The next myth is about children: treasured and idealised like 19th-century women who, when they cease to behave like perfect angels, are punished and rejected for falling short of the ideal. "I think it was very right that the *Bulger case traumatised the nation.*" The image lingers in her mind, of a child howling in a stroller in Kentish Town Road, at the mercy of a brutal *mother*: "*If only life were more* hospitable to children, there wouldn't be this tragic controlling tension that gives women their only power and authority. I'm all for women having authority, but it is easier to be fond of children in climates where children are welcome. Once at Edinburgh during the festival, in a public lavatory I heard strange snuffling sounds from behind a door. 'Are you all right?' I cried, and a voice said: 'I'm feeding my baby.' On a lavatory! In the summer, in Edinburgh!"

The fourth lecture deals with the animal rights movement — "inconceivable at any other time in history" — *rampant despite* far *more* pressing human problems, like children in desperate need.

She wouldn't want a mink coat herself but sees no reason why minks should not be humanely farmed. Finally, she covers racism and nationalism, and the myths of hearth and home. "Growing up abroad does rather detach you, but we know where we belong because of what we choose to believe in, a location *of the mind*. Myth is part of that: we tell stories that reflect the kind of people we want to be, and the society we want, which is why newspapers are so important.

"What the back-to-basics, family values stories, and the revelations about MPs' private lives tell us — and I don't think that behaviour should disqualify people from being MPs, not because I condone it but because MPs should be representative of us all, with all our difficulties — is that the single mothers campaign was an *attempt to place all blame and* responsibility for a social change onto the most vulnerable group.

"A woman who leaves her child while she works gets a prison sentence; the Budget's concession that a woman cannot work without proper childcare represented a huge gain. And it is ridiculous to see investment in these children as lost: the money is nothing compared with written-off grants to companies like Gyles Brandreth's — a story far more disgusting, to me, than Tim Yeo's baby."

The Reith lectures are usually launched in the BBC boardroom. Ms Warner's will be launched next week in the *Museum of the Moving Image*, with its myths and monsters, under the symbolic model of King Kong.

The curse of Keays

Libby Purves meets a single mother who still has the power to make Tories tremble


Sara Keays: symbolic figure

It is not often you see voodoo in action: grown men flinching, gripped by irrational terror in the face of an ancient symbolic figure. I saw a bit of prime voodoo yesterday, though; when by sheer serendipity the unthinkable almost happened: a public platform was very nearly shared by a Government minister and Sara Keays.

The sharing never actually happened, since poor Alistair Burt, MP for Bury North and an Under Secretary at the Department of Social Security, had been instructed by his masters at all costs to get the hell off the stage before a panel including Ms Keays filed on to discuss the topic of single parenthood. And so he did, having read an anodyne, rather hurried speech about Family Credit and the like. As he left, up came the dread spectre herself.

There was something infuriating about the whole sequence: something symbolic of hypocritical national malaise. The circumstances were perfectly simple. *She* magazine holds an annual conference: this one, "Can the Family be Saved?", had been planned for six months, included a child psychiatrist, Penelope Leach, half the cast of *The Moral Maze*, Anna Coote from the Institute for Public Policy Research and other pundits. The panel on single parents included Sue Slipman, of the National Council for One-Parent Families, Marion Kozak of the Day Care Trust, and Sara Keays: recruited last November not as a gimmick (this was well before Back to Basics, let alone Yeo) but because she had spoken for the Wages for Housework campaign, and revealed herself as having become a more general campaigner for single mothers.

Her daughter Flora, from her notorious affair with Cecil Parkinson, has turned ten years old; the whole scandal is a decade old, and happened when the present Prime Minister and most of his Cabinet were youngsters on the backbenches. Despite the present flurry of scandals, the organisers of the conference could see no particular reason why a junior minister — or a senior one — should not have joined the panel discussion. Eveo, perhaps, sat next to Ms Keays to present the Government's view.

This was not some rowdy protest meeting; *She* conferences are high-powered and civilised affairs. It would have done the Government no end of good to have faced up to the shadows of the past, come pleasantly onto the platform, and engaged in a bit of civilised debate.

Some hopes. Poor Mr Burt came on, making a valiant joke about Marks & Spencer underwear in reference to the item which preceded him — a montage of stripping men from advertisements. He roared through his script, ignoring the odd genteel cry of "Rubbish!" — and fled the scene, as instructed. Whereon, carrying far more moral authority than if he had been allowed to stay and face them, the panel including Sara Keays gathered around me at the table, and off we went.

She is a strong woman, these days: the result of ten years caring for her fragile daughter and her ageing parents. Ten years as the *bête noire* of the party she once passionately supported. Every word Sara Keays said on the platform carried, eerily, the two meanings: "The Government has decided there are valid families and others which are not valid, and which must disappear . . . they will do all they can to force the ones they disapprove of out of the scene, financially . . . it ill becomes the Government to try and drive a wedge between "worthy" single mothers and the rest . . . the great threat is hypocrisy. 'It is the hallmark of this Government and of the press. How dare they call themselves honourable members?

"We teach our children to be honourable, to own up when they are wrong, to take responsibility for their mistakes — it is increasingly difficult when the Government won't do that, financially or sexually . . ." And so on. She held her own in the discussion, spoke up for the *sanctity of motherhood*, and fielded the morality question with grace. "We all make mistakes and have to live with the results of them. What is not fair is to victimise one set of women and their children".

(Later I asked her whether as a young *Conservative lioness a decade ago*, she felt so liberal about single mothers: perhaps not, she conceded. "But we all grow up.") She sounded, in short, very human, very liberal, and very hurt. But no more hurt than the ordinary single parent in the audience who stood up to *make the same point*. "It was a *mistake* on the Government's part," said Sue Slipman, "to start attacking single mothers. There are so many of us who felt hurt." Consensus swept the hall.

Any Government with any nous at all should have been able to put a senior man or woman up on that platform, to agree that there had been overstatement, to counterbalance the anger, to be seen to listen. It could have distanced today's administration from the one which swept the newborn Flora Keays under the carpet. But they didn't. Why, I asked Sara Keays afterwards, are they still so scared of you? "Because they know," she said, "that they have the *same old phoney values as ever*."

Well, it wasn't that they weren't offered a chance to deny it.

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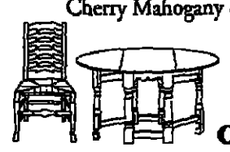


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Philip Howard



■ 'Less box, more books' is a good slogan, but some TV does provoke us to read

Most thought-provoking television provokes the thought, "Why am I watching this programme instead of getting on with a good book?" But at least for the next five weeks we have in prospect the delight of scurrying home in time to watch a television adaptation of a great book. So we shall no longer need to feel guilty that we should be improving ourselves or spending our time more profitably.

Most first-rate television is ripped off from second-rate novels. The best example is *The Forsyte Saga*. Soames, Irene, Jolyon, and the rest of that story of everyday middle-upper-class suburban bullies, bores, drones and adulterers around the turn of the century panted far more credible life on screen than on the page, at any rate for modern readers. *Pamela*, Richardson's vast novel, moved millions more through the small screen than had had the stamina to plough through those interminable and stylised letters. *The Jewel in the Crown* was an exotic but flawed tetralogy, which had run out of steam by the fourth book. However, it made a sumptuous television serial. Minor Dickens makes better television than the first division. Sherlock Holmes works better on the box than *Emma* or *Jane Eyre*.

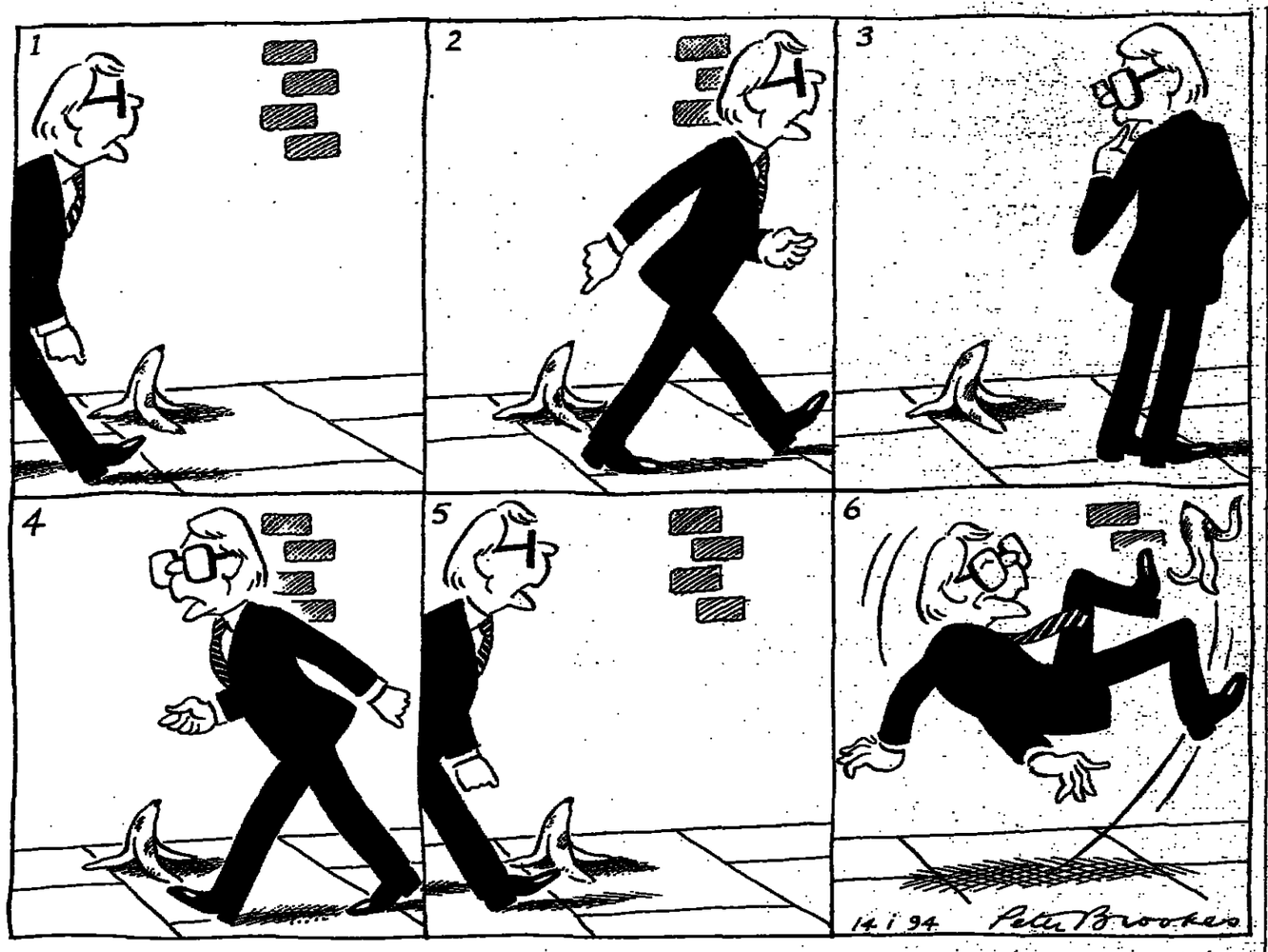
But for many of us, *Middlemarch* is the greatest Victorian novel, more radical than *Oliver Twist* or *Nicholas Nickleby*, sharper in its social criticism than *Vanity Fair*, cleverer, more passionate and less bufferish than anything in Trollope, because it includes the real thoughts and feelings of women — the half of the human race that other Victorian fiction stereotyped or caricatured or ignored.

How can a novel of ideas that changed the way men and women saw the world be translated successfully into television? The power of *Middlemarch* grows through its ideas and conversations rather than its narrative. Its panorama of provincial life (drawn from Coventry in the book, but filmed in Stamford, because Coventry has been altered by the Luftwaffe and the property developers in the 120 years since *Middlemarch* was published) is a vivid picture of English economic, social and religious life at a time of great change. The book has a huge team of players, but they create an intellectual and emotional pattern rather than an adventure story with a crude storyline.

With his passion for amateur dramatics, Dickens would be writing for television if he were alive today. I doubt whether George Eliot would. And if she tried, I am not sure she would be any good at it. She was better with analysis than pictures, and although she admired her most filmable Florentine melodrama, *Romola*, best of her books ("There is no book of mine about which I more thoroughly feel that I could swear by every sentence as having been written with my best blood"), she was wrong. But she would not have been offended by the notion of a six-part series for television. Her novel first appeared in soap instalments.

Eliot might have found this first episode a bit heavy on the glossiness of smart country living and Roman views, and a bit light on the low life of the working classes, for whom she also had sympathetic insight. She would have been startled to observe in the introduction the railway navvies laying double tracks of shining steel on a modern gravel bed at a time when Stephenson's Rocket was state-of-the-art high-tech and rails were made of iron. But spot the anachronism is a ploy of oneupmanship for readers watching such television spectaculars.

The acting by Michael Hordern on a death-bed, Robert Hardy playing himself as usual, pretty Juliet Aubrey and the rest must have pleased her. Dear girl, George Eliot, who looked like a camel, was fascinated by the male-determined and subjective mystery of female beauty. Of course, the television-makers over-egged the costumes and the period scenery, bonnets and top hats, for the American as well as the home market. But they left unchanged many of the wise, sharp words that go to the heart of the matter between men and women. The bookshops will now sell out of paperback copies, and some who buy it will read it and so change the way they look at the world.



A nation of snoopers

Watch out, there's a snout about, as the Government encourages citizens to poke their noses into other people's business

Bernard Levin

I followed with considerable interest the extraordinary pillow-fight over Sunday shop openings, and a singularly noisome one it has been. (Have you ever noticed that the debates on Private Members' Bills and other Private Members' time are actually more ridiculous than when the whips are on?) In the debate, on one side there were dreadful Tories who wouldn't know which end of a church was which and who in any case would much rather spend the time fornicating and drinking than praying, and on the other side there were elderly Labour members who looked back nostalgically to the days of ration-books, and dreamt of bringing these back as soon as Labour gets into power; as you would have guessed, neither lot took any serious interest in what the citizens might want.

Instead, they played a form of hopscotch; here, a member proposed that shops should be allowed to open on Sundays between 4am and 6.30am, unless they could prove that they do not sell shoelaces; there, another argued that shops should be able to open all day and all night including Sunday, provided that they did not sell anything; next, there was a proposal that food shops could only sell food that had passed its sell-by date; yet again, it was proposed to ignore Sunday altogether and prohibit the sale of all goods between midnight and Wednesday; and of course (this proposal was passed *nem. con.*), all Members of Parliament would be allowed to buy anything at any time from any shop, at a discount, particularly whisky and condoms.

The most remarkable aspect of this absurdity is the docility of our people. I know that there is a kind of fatalism among us, which deadens the rage that would otherwise boil over and end in hundreds and hundreds of lamp-posts bearing hanged politicians like leaves in spring, but surely something like this ought to have produced a considerable wave of bewildered anger. Does it not strike *you*, as it certainly does me, that it is positively bizarre to find the House of Commons, of all bodies, standing up and solemnly telling us when, where and how we may shop? Never mind the law that was already on the statute book; a one-clause Bill would have sufficed to remove it. But Bill or no Bill, why should Members of Parliament shove their snouts into something that concerned them only as individuals, as much as the rest of us? (I don't know how it is done, but we must, of course, recognise that in some way some MPs are getting kickbacks from the result of the vote.)

But the effect of this parliamentary impudence is only about to be seen. *Quis custodiet* . . . There is to be a distinction between shops under the new rules; the categories are two: large shops and small shops. No guidance is apparently to be given as to how you tell a large shop from a small one in the terms of a government decree. Is it the height of the shop, or the width, or the quantity or variety of items sold, or the number of people who pass through its doors in a day, or the number who can all be safely accommodated on the premises at the same time, or the size of the bribe given to the appropriate officer from the local council?

Presumably the last, if only because all the other possibilities are unintelligible. But the original offence remains: MPs, when they can spare the time from having sexual intercourse with sheep, badgers and — when available — orang-utans (all of these considerably safer than any MP), are encroaching upon rights that belong only to us, the people.

That's nothing. I mean it: nothing to what is coming. The *Mail* — I couldn't see it anywhere else — had the story: hark, and say after me "That's nothing — nothing to what is coming".

> Teams of volunteers are to patrol the streets monitoring litter louts. They will report regular offenders to council officials, who will decide whether to prosecute or issue warnings. The first pilot scheme is being set up in Canterbury and will be followed by others in the New Year. The Kent authority has advertised for members of the public to become street monitors — receiving training to help them "evaluate street cleaning and the quantity of litter".

Before I continue, I want you to play a little game for me: nothing turns on it, there are no prizes and you are on your honour only. (*Mail* readers, of course, must not let on.) Here is the riddle: In the third line of the next paragraph of the story so far, there is a name, a well-known name. What is it? I shall count up to fifty, reveal the name, and see whether you got it. Go . . .

. . . forty-four, forty-five, forty-six, forty-seven, forty-eight, forty-nine, *fifty*. Well, did you get it? Of course you did, or almost all of you did: it was, inevitably, Gummer. I shall continue.

> The further New Year schemes will be announced by Environment Secretary John Gummer in a fanfare of publicity.

Oh, my dear *Mail* reporter, you really didn't need to tell your readers that there would be a fanfare of publicity: not only will Gummer be there, but Howard has realised that there could be good publicity pickings for him; even if he can't get there, he can get his comments into print, and possibly his face as well. He has certainly staked his claim; he is quoted as saying that he welcomes litter monitors; indeed, it was he who set this horrible and dangerous business afoot with his Citizens' Army self-promotion.

Let me come back to the spies and informers (for whom special armbands are to be issued); but go back also to the "teams of volunteers" who will be "monitoring litter louts", and will "report regular offenders to councils" who "will decide whether to prosecute or issue warnings". These are, of course, to receive training in the arts of spying and informing; this, we learn, is to help them "evaluate street cleaning and the quantity of litter". Well, I can see why they need to have training; you and I, untrained in the profound mysteries of evaluating street cleaning, would make a frightful mess of it, and we would be quite hopeless when it comes to the *quantity* of litter. I mean, if you and I were to report back to our head spy and informer, and say something like "Ah, there's about half a hundredweight of litter altogether in Howard Street, and a bit more in Gummer Avenue", we wouldn't stand a chance of a job; no,no, we would be told, the estimation of the quantity of litter is skilled work.

It clearly does not worry Howard (nor, presumably, Gummer) that we shall shortly find our streets, and for that matter our roofs and doorsteps, awash with people hunting other people for more and more lurid reasons. When the police, alarmed, as well they might be, asked Howard "What happens if these street patrols take the law into their own hands?", the answer was "People ought to play a part", and he "welcomed the growth of truancy and litter monitors".

But leave the more lurid possibilities aside, just look around, calmly. The Education Secretary was recently getting worried about the rising tide of truancy, so he called for something he named "Truancy Watch". (I don't know whether he was the first to call for such help.) Truancy Watch, as its name makes clear, relies on spies and informers. Probably you knew that; but did you know that there now exist a Business Watch, a Shop Watch, a Church Watch (O ye of little faith!), a Farm Watch, a Country Watch, an Airport Watch and even a Horse Watch? And you can be sure that more and more of these Watches are springing up weekly, daily, hourly.

I repeat what the police said: "What happens if these street patrols take the law into their own hands?", and I repeat Howard's failure to answer it. It will happen fairly soon, and he will have no fewer than 17 reasons that no blame attaches to him. But that is not what I worry most about. What disturbs my rest is the picture of Britain becoming a land of spies and informers, trained and proudly sporting the armband which shows their office, with Gummer urging more and more citizens to enrol in the business of revealing that Mrs Higginbottom failed last Wednesday fortnight to put her litter in the litter-bin and Mr Higginbottom failed last Thursday a month ago to ensure that Higginbottom Minor went to school.

I have read somewhere that the first country in the world to make littering a criminal offence was Hitler's Germany. I find that most piquant: do you suppose that Gummer would see the joke?

The Tories lied about taxation

All the promises came to nought, says Gordon Brown

As April approaches, not only are taxes going up, but all trust in a Conservative Government on matters of taxation has broken down. As the typical family prepares to pay an extra £10 a week, rising to £16 next year, the full extent of the Tory tax deceit is becoming apparent. The typical British family is now paying more of its income in tax than in 1979. By focusing attention on the headline rate of income tax, Mr Major and his ministers thought they could get away with freezing tax allowances, lowering tax thresholds and cutting mortgage tax relief. They even thought that they could obscure the doubling of VAT since 1979 and a 50 per cent rise in National Insurance. The attempt has failed. The facts are out.

The Conservatives will never be trusted on tax again. In 1988, George Bush famously called on American electors to "Read my lips: No new taxes". Taxes rose once and he was never trusted again. In 1992, John Major told people to read his manifesto commitment not to increase tax. Now taxes are set to rise — not just once, but in 20 separate ways over the next two years. Mr Major will never be trusted again.

Both the tax rises themselves and the sense of betrayal will get worse. When Labour left office, 34.75 per cent of national income was taken in tax. This year, tax will take 35.5 per cent, rising to 37 per cent next year, 37.5 the year after and 38.5 per cent by 1998. Never again can the Tories claim to be the low tax party, or that they have an "instinct" for low taxation, when they have had to admit that in every year until the brink of the next century, taxation will take more and more of national income.

Almost all of us are now paying for the Government's mistakes. Families on half average income have seen an increase in the share of this taken in tax, and so have families whose income is twice the average. Even families which have benefited from cuts in top rate income tax — those on four times average income, nearly £80,000 a year — will be paying more than they did in 1979.

The only beneficiaries of Conservative tax policies have been a tiny minority very close to the Tory party. The top 1 per cent, earning more than £120,000 a year, received 30 per cent of the tax cuts in the big handout of 1988. Only a fraction of that is being taken back. It is still possible for someone earning £1 million a year to pay virtually no tax at all. But because this tiny minority pays less, the rest of us have to pay more.

Yet Tory tax-cutting promises were not incidental commitments, the accidental result of casual remarks in the heat of the election campaign. The tax promises were the centrepiece of the Tories' political strategy and their attack on Labour. They were the cornerstone of Mr Major's attempt to secure re-election, and they are at the heart of the question of integrity in politics.

In 1992, Mr Major promised that "we have no plans and no need to extend the scope of VAT". He now claims his statements were to be taken as aspirations, rather than undertakings. Yet the evidence is against him. For he also categorically stated "there will be no VAT increase". His party even issued a special campaign briefing which said that "following a series of unfounded and irresponsible scares by the Labour Party, the Prime Minister has confirmed that the Government has no intention of raising VAT further".

The promises given on national insurance and income tax were, if anything, even more explicit. The Tory party chairman called national insurance rises "a backdoor stealth tax", while Michael Portillo said that "higher tax and national insurance would hit those who work harder and do overtime".

It was not only that Mr Major promised not to raise income tax. He went far further. He promised that he would cut it "year on year".

The Government now claims that circumstances changed. But when Norman Lamont was asked at the election whether he would increase taxes, he replied: "We will not have to increase taxes. I cannot see any circumstances in which that will be necessary."

What annoys people is a Conservative Government making promises one year and refusing even to acknowledge breaking them the next. The Prime Minister's "back to basics", if it were to mean anything, should mean telling the truth, and there can be little sympathy for a Government that simply refuses to do what it asks of the rest of the public: to be honest in its promises, to face up to the consequences of its commitments and to understand the difference betwen right and wrong.

Tax is the cash nexus between people and government. Trust is therefore essential. The Tory deception is therefore betrayal of a central trust.

A new confidence needs to be established between people and government on tax, a confidence the Conservatives are incapable of achieving. The Labour party has made it clear that it will not tax for taxation's sake. There will be no sleight of hand. By linking the benefits that people receive to the taxes they are charged, we will show what they are getting for what they are paying. And Labour — unlike the Tories on VAT — will be fair in its approach.

Honest disclosure, full consultation, open debate and full accountability for how money is spent are the means to re-establish trust between government and electorate. Only Labour can do that now.

The author is shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer.

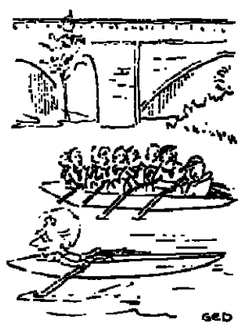
Magdalene Maggie?

DOES academia beckon at last for Baroness Thatcher? The name of Somerville's best known *alumna* is being whispered around the high table at Magdalene College, Cambridge, as a possible successor to Sir David Calcutt as Master.

From Thatcher's point of view, such an appointment would deliver a splendid snub to Oxford — whose snooty dons so famously refused to confer an honorary degree on her while she was Prime Minister. And her proven talent at fundraising would delight any college. "She would not be an illogical choice at all," insists one senior college source, "especially as we've only recently started taking women students." With Cambridge still falling behind Oxford in the sexual equality stakes, others also see the appeal.

"It will be a splendid thing for Cambridge when one or other of the former male colleges elects a woman head," says Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn, Master of Jesus. "And clearly there would be few more eminent or clear-minded candidates than Lady Thatcher."

The Master of Emmanuel, and one of her former ministers, Lord St John of Fawsley, believes however that it's a case of the twain ne'er meeting. "In some ways I wish it would happen, but there would be the most extraordinary display of fireworks," he laughs. "I am all for giving her an honorary degree — it's about time we did. But with someone of her temperament who doesn't believe in consensus, it would a total and utter disaster. Her tenure would be even shorter than John Tusa's!"



● *The long arm of top libel lawyer Peter Carter-Ruck, whose recent clients include Michael Dobbs and David Ashby MP, has another unfortunate by the neck. An Inverness man has been jailed after admitting breaking into Carter-Ruck's remote holiday cottage at Ockle on the Ardnamurchen Peninsula. Richard Scott caused £1,650-worth of damage inside the country retreat, burning encyclopaedias, helping himself to food and oil paintings and daubing walls with graffiti. Let's hope none of it was defamatory.*

DIARY

A finer eye

IAN POSGATE, dubbed "Goldfinger" in his now far-off days as a star Lloyd's underwriter, was in breezy form on Wednesday night at the 10th anniversary celebration of the Sally Hunter Fine Art gallery in Knightsbridge.

Posgate married into the business four years ago, when he wed Sally Hunter. But he has long been an appreciator of art — as he showed in the late 1970s when he dismissed a Pissarro he had been given by an associate as "not that good, not that expensive".

His philosophy does not seem to have changed very much. "We pile 'em high and sell 'em cheap," he says, surveying the wood-engravings and etchings which adorn his wife's gallery.

One impressed guest was Mona Bauwens, the film producer and friend of David and Judith Mellor. She was taking time out from putting the finishing touches to her novel, *Bitter Honey*. "It's about a man, a woman and life." Aren't they all?

In other papers

AN UGLY spat has broken out again between those preening purveyors of society tittle-tattle, Ross Benson of the *Daily Express* and Nigel Dempster of the *Daily Mail*.

Hysterical insults are currently being traded between their two gossip columns, culminating yesterday in a challenge from Dempster, who offered £20,000 to the "pathetic Dross" if he could "substantiate three specific inventions" he had written.

The *Daily Mail*'s daily tirade against the well-groomed Benson, whom Dempster unkindly terms a "*pompadoured poltroon*", is brushed off airily. "He seems to have gone stark raving mad," says Benson. "Don't ask me what it is about, but it always seems to happen around Christmas. He finds the season of good-will very difficult to deal with."

Dempster stands by his offer, however. "It's very simple. It's lazy journalism on their part and we need an opposition. I faxed the bet to him yesterday. I haven't heard from him. Sadly, I think he is a very mean man."

● *Earl Selsdon, president of the British Exporters' Association, thought he'd be in for a long wait when he found his flight from Kiev coincided with President Clinton's. Not a bit of it. President Kravchuk's officials assured the hereditary peer that in Ukraine "a Lord takes precedence over a plain Mr", and promptly gave him priority. Don't you just love democracy?*

King's men

AS winner of the fifth Calvin and Rose Hoffman prize, Dr David Pascoe, of Oriel College, Oxford, will today receive the curious but nonetheless welcome sum of £9,100 from the King's School, Canterbury. Calvin Hoffman, as the well-briefed will recall, was the progenitor of the notion that Christopher Marlowe did not, as most accept, die in a Deptford tavern brawl, but went on to become William Shakespeare.

"I don't actually subscribe to those theories, but they're quite fun to work with," says Pascoe.

"Hoffman wasn't a top-class academic, but he certainly had a good eye for a story."

It would certainly reward someone to take Hoffman, who died in 1986, very seriously. Anyone who can prove "irrefutably and incontrovertibly" that Shakespeare and Marlowe were one and the same stands to receive his very own "sweet fruition of an earthly crown". King's Canterbury, which administers the Hoffman trust, is a little cagey about the sum involved. "But it would probably make the Booker pale into insignificance."

Pocket portrait

TRANSPORT MINISTER Roger Freeman is £5 the richer after a visit to the Weardale Valley railway line in County Durham, to judge whether it should be re-opened. The crisp fiver was handed to Freeman by a group of railway enthusiasts, including record-producer Pete Waterman.

Waterman says the note was used not as an incentive, but to help explain why the railway should reopen. The reverse side of £5 notes carry a picture of George Stephenson, whose Rocket regularly used the line. "It explains the whole thing," says Waterman. "But I doubt whether we can bribe ministers with a fiver. It hardly buys a bottle of wine any more."

HOME TO ROOST

From Westminster to Westminster: another scandal

Dame Shirley Porter first came to national attention with her successful court action against the Greater London Council for corruption. As leader of Westminster Council, she provided an early model of efficient, low-cost Conservative local government under the slogan of "value for money". The grave allegations of gerrymandering and illegal expenditure, now levelled against her and nine other Westminster councillors and officials by the district auditor, expose the Government once more to the charge that there is a great gulf fixed between Tory preaching and Tory practice.

Labour is reacting as though its own local government scandals, from Liverpool to Lambeth, were buried so deep in history's dustheap that it can safely cast limitless numbers of stones. None the less the charges are too serious for comfort. John Major did not look comfortable taking questions on the issue yesterday. Nor should he be. Too much is being made of the fact that for legal reasons, John Magill, the auditor, has released only a brief summary of a report running to 600 pages accompanied by 10,000 pages of documents, which has taken four years to compile. What he has felt free to say is devastating enough. Even if it is hardly, as Jack Straw claims, "the stuff of banana republics", it is a banana skin the Tories could do without.

The findings are, formally, only provisional, pending representations from those concerned. But after "the most wide ranging and comprehensive enquiry ever conducted by a local government auditor" Westminster Council and the individuals named will be hard pressed to persuade Mr Magill not to take to court the case for surcharging the ten and disqualifying the councillors from local government.

The allegation is of wilful misconduct, defined by Mr Magill as doing "something which was wrong, knowing it to be wrong, or with reckless indifference as to whether it was wrong or not". The nub of the case concerns Westminster's alleged abuse of a policy of council house sales for electoral advantage, in the run-up to what the Tory majority expected to be a very close contest in the local government elections of 1990.

The council argues that there was nothing illegal about this policy, that it was "highly popular and successful", and that increasing home ownership in Westminster was a firm electoral pledge. This is a perfectly fair point, in principle; and it is in the nature of local democracy for councils to spend money in ways that will maximise the support of voters. There is much to be said too for offering houses for sale to people from other regions: workers should be able to move to find jobs, and lack of affordable housing inhibits mobility. But none of this suffices as an explanation for spending money expressly in order to change the actual composition of the electorate in marginal constituencies, by offering housing for sale at a discount to potential Tory voters.

In the plain English for which Dame Shirley campaigned so effectively in her war against bureaucratic red tape, the auditor finds that electoral advantage was "the driving force" behind the council's housing sales policy and that it amounted to "gerrymandering ... a disgraceful and improper purpose". He finds Westminster in breach of its statutory duty to the homeless under the 1985 Housing Act, and adds that no local housing authority would "reasonably" adopt a policy with the anticipated consequence of increasing the number of homeless in temporary accommodation, at an extra cost of £1.5 million a year. He assesses the overall cost to taxpayers at over £21 million, which he is "minded" to ask the High Court to order those named to repay.

For those named to resign at this stage, before Mr Magill has reached his final decisions, would be inappropriate. But the auditor has discretion to open further hearings to the public. To restore confidence in the accountability of local government, he should do so. This has been a long-running saga and this is by no means its end.

AFTER THE REVOLT

Mexican democracy must not be held back by Chiapas

For the last ten days, the Mexican airforce has pounded the hills of that country's southernmost state. The army has used equally heavy force on the ground. This has been in response to an armed revolt in Chiapas, launched on the first day of the new year, by the Zapatista National Liberation Army. This previously unknown guerrilla group purports to fight for an improvement in political and material conditions in the area, where most of the population is of Mayan descent and subscribes to a non-hispanic cultural tradition.

President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has achieved a great deal for his country since he came to power in 1988. He has modernised Mexico, through policies of retrenchment, privatisation and trade liberalisation coupled with a creditable assault on corruption. His government pressed for, and eventually achieved, the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta). Nafta is a godsend for Mexico. Its benefits, paradoxically, lie not in trade — there has, already, been virtually free trade with America since 1985 — but in the likely increase in foreign investment. This will lead to a growth in Mexican heavy industry and a reorganisation of the service sector. Above all, Nafta will "lock in" Mexican economic strategy. President Salinas's successors are committed to his path.

But Chiapas has been left behind. Nearly half the population is illiterate and two-thirds of all households have no electricity. Human and property rights are violated regularly, with landlords and police in unsavoury alliance. It is poorer than other Mexican provinces, and has benefited little from the Salinas economic miracle. Money spent there has only fortified oligarchic social and political structures. There is almost no faith in the electoral process.

The Government needs to heed the warning from this revolt. The fierce military response to the revolt should not be the model for the future. Grave excesses were committed by the Mexican army, and these must be accounted for. President Salinas has acted sagely in ordering a cease-fire. His appointment of Manuel Camacho Solis as Commissioner for Reconciliation is to be applauded, as is his sacking of Patrocinio Gonzalez Garrido, the hardline Interior Minister. Señor Gonzalez was governor of Chiapas until 1993 and must take some responsibility for the province's desperate situation.

Mexico will vote for a new president in August. The last election was regarded widely as fraudulent, but both President Salinas and his hand-picked successor, Luis Donaldo Colosio, have promised fair elections. Until the eruption in Chiapas, they were expected to be genuinely fair, as the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), bursting with confidence after its Nafta success, was not felt to be in need of extra-constitutional assistance. PRI hardliners may be tempted to revert to old methods in a fit of post-Chiapas nerves. This would be a mistake. Free polls, and Nafta, must be allowed to reach Chiapas.

A BRIDGE TOO FAR

Crossing from bank to bank stirs primeval emotions

It seems incredible that the construction of a bridge could lead to the fall of a government, especially in stolid, sober Scandinavia. The ambitious plan to link Sweden and continental Europe via a 10-mile road and rail bridge across the Oresund strait to Denmark was agreed in 1991 but has since run into a wave of criticism in Sweden. The bridge is said to be an environmental disaster, with dredging and the creation of an artificial island upsetting the ecological balance of the Baltic. The Centre party has threatened to leave the four-party coalition, and the government of Carl Bildt, the prime minister, could collapse.

Bridges are probably man's oldest feat of engineering. They enabled ancient tribes to surmount the barriers of nature and cultivate distant fertile fields. Crossing water became intertwined with magic and taboo; bridges were not only the strategic objectives of tribal warfare, but their builders were revered as men of supreme learning. The role of Pontifex Maximus — the great bridge builder — was ancient Rome's highest religious office. Throughout the Christian era bridges have been blessed and physically revered with the placement of chapels and churches at either end. Some, such as the Ponte Vecchio and the Rialto, were the centres of commerce and gossip; others, such as the structure at Avignon, were more akin to totemic symbols where maidens danced and youth rejoiced.

Yet spanning the natural divides of water or gully also rouses atavistic fears that are only thinly disguised as political or environmental objections. These normally come not from those trying to reach the distant shore but from the communities whose isolation is to be breached: the inhabitants of Skye fear an influx from the Scottish mainland; both Hull and northern Lincolnshire disliked the great white elephant over the Humber when it first joined them; the English long held far more fundamental objections to being linked by dry land to France than vice-versa.

Once built, however, bridges command an almost sacred respect. Each generation tries to outdo its forebears in erecting a marvel of beauty or elegance or engineering: the longest span, the highest tower, or the most graceful curve or the most expensively carved stone. To many tourists and image makers, the Forth Bridge and Tower Bridge sum up the capitals of Scotland and England, just as the Golden Gate or the Sydney Harbour Bridge are invariably the symbols of their cities. And the destruction of bridges is mourned longer than the fall of other buildings: the Tay Bridge lives on in the doggerel of William McGonagall, the shelling of the old bridge at Mostar is an emotive crime of the Bosnia war.

Sweden will one day be linked to Denmark, whether Mr Bildt's government stands or falls. Europe may even be linked to Africa across the Pillars of Hercules. The allure of the other bank cannot long be resisted, and bridge-building, literally, politically and socially, remains one of mankind's proudest achievements. But there are, invariably, troubled waters to cross in the process.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Gloomy prospects persist for future of air we breathe

From Dr Robin Russell Jones

Sir, *The Times* deserves congratulation on its timely investigation into the adverse effects of air pollution on human health (reports, January 10-12). Your readers should also be aware, however, that environmental groups have been making precisely these points over the last decade.

I quote from the submission which I prepared in 1984 on behalf of Friends of the Earth to a House of Lords select committee on the EC directive regarding air pollution by motor vehicles:

Carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen, ozone and hydrocarbon emissions all pose threats to human health ... In particular, the groups of substances known as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons contain a number of known carcinogens which have been implicated as the agents responsible for the higher incidence of cancer observed in urban areas. A recent American study concluded that from 11 [to 21] per cent of current lung cancer deaths can be attributed to air pollution.

The mutagenic properties of exhaust emissions have been measured in Sweden, showing that diesel emissions were ten times more mutagenic than petrol emissions. The latter, in turn, were ten times more mutagenic than emissions from an engine running on unleaded petrol and fitted with a three-way catalytic converter.

Dr Jon Ayres comments ("Pollution 'a bigger enemy than smoking' ", January 12) that "future evidence may show that diesel is not as green as we thought it was". As far as environmental groups in the UK are concerned, diesel never has been acceptable and it is high time that the Government acted accordingly.

By the year 2025 the Department of Transport predicts an increase in traffic volume of between 80 per cent and 140 per cent. Instead of blundering on with its massive road-building programmes would it not be more sensible to create an integrated transport policy on both environmental and health grounds?

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN RUSSELL JONES,
St Thomas' Hospital,
Lambeth Palace Road, SE1.
January 12.

From Mr R. A. Searles

Sir, I can give some comfort on the questions raised by Kevin Eason, your motoring correspondent ("Motor vehicles leave toxic legacy", January 10), on the time for catalytic converters to reach full effectiveness. While these need a hot exhaust to convert over 90 per cent of the pollution in a car's exhaust, the test procedure used to check their efficiency includes a 2½-mile journey from a cold start in congested city driving.

Recent research on this topic by the autocatalyst industry has now been confirmed by the roads minister, Robert Key. In a written answer to the House of Commons (Hansard, December 15) he cited work at the Government's Warren Spring Laboratory at Stevenage which showed average conversions of 76 per cent of carbon monoxide, 81 per cent of hydrocarbons and 77 per cent of nitrogen oxides measured over the cold-start city test.

The catalytic converters now fitted on all petrol cars, and an increasing number of diesel ones, can provide a very real improvement to air quality, provided that cars are well maintained and given that annual checks to this end are introduced.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. SEARLES
(Market Development Director),
Catalytic Systems Division,
Johnson Matthey,
Orchard Road,
Royston, Hertfordshire.
January 11.

From Mr J. N. Fuller

Sir, Your motoring correspondent reports the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders as believing that by the year 2002 pollutants will have dropped to half the 1989 level.

What should also have been reported is that the Urban Air Quality Review Group, reporting to the Department of the Environment in January 1993, has warned that after the year 2010 pollution levels of certain dangerous gases will begin to rise again. Due to the forecast growth in traffic volume the gains made as a result of the introduction of catalytic converters will soon be lost.

The review group specifically warns that experience in the US — where catalytic converters were mandatory from 1983 but air quality quickly began to deteriorate again in the late 1980s due to increased car use — may be repeated here.

Yours faithfully,
J. N. FULLER,
182 Eastwood Old Road,
Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.
January 10.

From Miss R. N. Steinholtz

Sir, I cheer your coverage of the health threat posed to all of us by vehicle exhaust. I have frequently heard visitors to London from the US and Canada complain about the poor quality of the air on the street (they of course have forgotten what it was like pre-catalytic converter in North America).

I realised just how right they are during a recent trip to New York City when I found myself standing on the street corners and thinking how clean the air was. Perhaps the prospect of the potential loss of tourist revenue will help to convince the Government that something must be done about traffic.

Yours faithfully,
R. N. STEINHOLTZ,
28 Belsize Park Gardens,
Hampstead, NW3.
January 11.

From Mr James Miller

Sir, Your article on air pollution in traffic-clogged streets (January 11) may be very politically correct; but can the accompanying picture, showing Friends of the Earth "monitoring" carbon monoxide emissions billowing out a few inches from a car exhaust, be described as scientifically correct? Any idiot can get a high reading that way.

Yours etc,
JAMES MILLER,
East Green Farm,
Great Bradley,
Newmarket, Suffolk.
January 12.

French release of murder suspects

From Mr Anthony M. V. Coombs, MP for Wyre Forest (Conservative)

Sir, Inured as most of us working in the human rights field are to the rarity of moral purpose in international diplomacy, the recent news that the French government has cravenly, and in secret, released to Tehran two Iranians, suspected of murder in Switzerland, is a depressing shock.

Not only were Mohsen Sharif Esfahani and Ahmad Taheri the subject of a Swiss extradition request that they face charges for the alleged murder in Geneva two years ago of Professor Kazem Rajavi, a distinguished critic of Iran's regime, but it appears that the French Foreign Ministry's original agreement to this was overruled by M Edouard Balladur, the French prime minister.

Notwithstanding the fact that a Swiss court, to which I gave evidence in July 1992, has already found a prima facie case of official Iranian complicity in Professor Rajavi's murder; irrespective of the fact that this crime is just one of a series of killings of Iranian critics throughout Europe recently; and despite the American State Department's verdict on Iran as one of the world's principal exporters of state terrorism, the French government has now, without any explanation beyond the national interest, undermined the international pursuit of justice and significantly weakened European support for UN efforts to hold member governments responsible for their records on human rights.

As to France's reliability under pressure, either within the Western European Union or the much-vaunted, though practically unconvincing, political dimension of the European Union, this discreditable episode should at least give us pause.

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY COOMBS,
House of Commons.
January 5.

Back to basics: concerns about moral double standards

From Professor Bruce Archer

Sir, Ordinary citizens are concerned about the morals of MPs, and for very good reasons. For our own protection, we require our law-makers and our law-enforcers to be persons of judgment and integrity.

MPs who are caught out systematically cheating their spouses, their constituencies or (say) the taxman threaten our confidence in the mechanics of the parliamentary system. Lying and deceit in the home inevitably entail lying and deceit in the constituency. Lying and deceit in the constituency inevitably entail lying and deceit in the private office.

Those of us who have witnessed duplicity and corruption in other institutions and in other countries know only too well how corrosive double standards are. I would not employ a plumber whom I knew to be a liar, much less a minister of state. The higher the office, the greater the demand for honesty.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE ARCHER,
15 Church Vale, N2.
January 10.

From Mr Chaim Bermant

Sir, What makes you say (leading article, January 11) that "back to basics" is "an almost universal embarrassment"? The fact that the Yeos are being flushed out of office is in itself a proof that it is working.

Yours faithfully,
CHAIM BERMANT,
18 Hill Rise, NW11.

From Mr Robin Pittman

Sir, Mr Major's "back to basics" campaign is, he says (report, January 7), about "issues like ... making sure in the classroom we actually go back to the basics of teaching education to our children". What does this tautological and badly phrased statement tell us about his policy and vision?

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN PITTMAN
(Head Master),
St Peter's School, York.
January 8.

From Mr Gerhard Spanier

Sir, "Back to basics" could be a suitable slogan for an opposition, frustrated by many years without power and influence; whether it is a very wise notion in any circumstance is questionable.

To be issued by a government in power as long as this one amounts, by any logic, to a condemnation of its policies out of its own mouth.

Yours faithfully,
G. SPANIER,
549 Middle Road, Swansea.
January 11.

From Dr David Hamilton

Sir, In government you get fired for adultery, in ordinary life you don't. This is known as hypocrisy.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HAMILTON,
26 Maison Dieu,
Richmond, North Yorkshire.
January 11.

From Miss Silvia Pearson

Sir, In pronouncing on morality, all leaders in society know they inevitably pronounce on the moral quality of their own lives. When they try to avoid any ensuing judgments they simply cause confusion as they ask us to accept moral failing on the grounds of its inevitability. The absolute goal of morality is conveniently shifted.

Basic morality is not a complicated issue. The Bible expects man to fail, but does not accept it. It exhorts him to try again and, through the Cross, man is armed with the weapons to fight his own failure and to get it right.

Yours sincerely,
SILVIA PEARSON,
16 Gledhow Gardens,
South Kensington, SW5.
January 11.

From Mrs S. P. Boote

Sir, Martin Ivens's "historical perspective" ("A moral minority unleashed", January 11) does not appear to take into account that when Charles James Fox was tucked up in bed with his mistress, neither Suffolk woman nor indeed Essex man would have been eligible to vote.

It is worth considering that, in a literate, independent electorate and informed by an unshackled press, Suffolk woman may be expressing the views of a silent, moral majority.

Yours faithfully,
S. P. BOOTE,
231 Hodges Street,
Wigan, Lancashire.
January 11.

Right to silence

From His Honour Judge David Q. Miller

Sir, When considering whether or not to retain the "right to silence" (letter, January 11) the purpose of a criminal trial should be borne in mind. Simply stated, it is to convict the guilty and acquit the innocent, and if a jury is to do this then it is obvious that they have to hear from both sides, prosecution and defence.

Those in favour of the right to silence argue that there is a great legal principle involved. There is not. It is a matter of tactics: defence counsel advises his client that there is a better chance of an acquittal if he does not give evidence.

Sometimes this tactic succeeds and sometimes it does not. There can just as likely be an unjustified acquittal as a wrongful conviction. It is surely the evidence that should decide the outcome of a trial and not the tactics employed.

In my view the Government's proposals regarding the right to silence are to be welcomed as an attempt to try to introduce some sensible procedures into the criminal process. Further reforms should follow and other obscure and arcane procedures and practices abolished.

There will be howls of protest from the lawyers, as there always are whenever any change is suggested.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID Q. MILLER,
31 Edinburgh Gardens,
Windsor, Berkshire.

Economic factors

From Sir Bryan Hopkin

Sir, Peter Riddell is not entitled to say ("Freedom at the going rate", January 3) that "neo-Keynesians ... believe there is a trade-off between inflation and unemployment". What we believe is that there is a trade-off between the use of monetary policy to bear down on inflation, on the one hand, and economic activity and unemployment on the other.

The relations between actual inflation and unemployment are affected by many non-policy influences, and cannot be read as if they showed the effects of economic policy.

Yours sincerely,
BRYAN HOPKIN,
Aberthin House, Aberthin,
Cowbridge, South Glamorgan.

Greek resilience

From Mr Michael Chapman

Sir, Mr Michaelides (letter, January 5) suggests that the military prowess of Greece has been undervalued and cites Greek resistance against the German-Italian invasion in 1941.

Those of us who were with the British expeditionary force that went to the assistance of Greece do not forget how the 10,000 comrades we left behind after our evacuation were taken into hiding, cared for and fed in towns, villages and mountains by ordinary brave Greek civilians, themselves short of food and risking death if discovered.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL CHAPMAN,
Thorington House,
Stoke by Nayland, Suffolk.

Happy in your work?

From Mrs M. M. Evans

Sir, His Honour Judge Cotterill fears that the fun has vanished from our daily labours, and wonders what might be the cause (letters, December 31, January 3, 7).

I love my job as a deputy head-teacher in a comprehensive school. I am excited to see children learning and teachers continuing to develop their considerable skills in offering educational opportunities to enable pupils of all abilities to reach their potential. I feel privileged to be a part of the management of this process.

A good comprehensive school gives opportunities for learning which many parents of teenage children envy. They wish it had been like this when they were at school, as there is fun and laughter and also hard work to be had in abundance.

So I am happy to be working with the committed and dedicated teachers who make all this possible. I would be happier still if the professionality of teachers was more readily recognised by society at large.

Yours faithfully,
M. EVANS,
3 The Granary, Kiln Lane,
Clophill, Bedfordshire.

Zhirinovsky threat

From Lieutenant Colonel Peter Robinson (retd)

Sir, Dr Robert McGeehan's dismissal of Vladimir Zhirinovsky (letter, January 4) as having more in common with Inspector Clouseau than with Adolf Hitler ignores the fact that many Russian voters perceive this man as a potential leader. Time may be short if the West is to exert a benign influence over events.

When the Soviet Union broke up and fell into economic disarray the West dithered over what aid should be given. We were generous with advice to the new government but provided little for the beleaguered citizens short of heating, food and consumer goods. We gave nothing that would change their view of the West.

Now that there is a resurgence of Russian nationalist sentiment, we pour scorn on a dangerous new potential leader but do nothing tangible to highlight his weakness. If Nato could deter the Soviet Union in the Cold War when the frontier with the Warsaw Pact ran through the middle of Germany, how much more effective would that deterrence be with the whole glacis of Eastern Europe enlisted into our alliance.

We are missing our chance to further our own interests, those of the Russian people and, above all, those of future world peace. Let us therefore put effort into helping the Russians to attain decent living standards whilst expanding Nato eastwards.

When Inspector Clouseau unites Russia with Ukraine and invites the former Eastern European allies to rejoin the fold, we shall have dithered too long.

Yours faithfully,
PETER ROBINSON,
The Georgians, High Street,
Market Deeping, Lincolnshire.

Shopping hitch

From Mr Peter Moss

Sir, Don't worry. The new super supermarket trolley that scans and prices 50 items a second (report and leader, January 12) won't abolish the chit-chat and pleasantries of the queue. Nineteen of the usual 20 checkout assistants will be made redundant, and instead of 20 shortish queues there'll be one long one.

Yours faithfully,
PETER MOSS,
24 Quaggy Walk, Blackheath, SE3.

Printed out

From Mr R. A. Warner

Sir, On examining six of the seven hardback books received in this household as Christmas presents, I was amazed to see that one was printed and bound in China, one in Italy, one in Czechoslovakia and three in Hong Kong.

It seems I was mistaken in believing that the UK has a competitive printing industry providing continuous work for many of its citizens.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. WARNER,
Good Tidings, 23 Bromley Road,
Lawford, Manningtree, Essex.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 13: The Prince Edward, Patron, Ocean Youth Club, this evening visited the 1994 London International Boat Show, Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London SW5.

Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 13: The Princess Royal this morning opened the new Belgravia Police Station, Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1.

Her Royal Highness, Chancellor, University of London, this afternoon visited the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School and, as Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, visited the Occupational Therapy Department, the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, 369 Fulham Road, London SW10.

Mrs William Nunnelcy was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
January 13: The Duke of Kent, Honorary Air Commodore, Royal Air Force Leuchars, today received Air Commodore Steven Nicholl, Station Commander on relinquishing the appointment and Group Captain Nigel Sudborough, on assuming the appointment.

His Royal Highness, Liveryman, this evening attended a Special Livery Dinner at Mercers' Hall, Ironmonger Lane, London EC2.

Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

Today's royal engagement

The Duke of Gloucester, as president, will open two linear accelerator suites at St Bartholomew's Hospital at 10.00.

Baron Nolan

The life barony conferred upon Sir Michael Patrick Nolan, Lord Justice of Appeal, has been gazetted by the name, style and title of **Baron Nolan**, of Brasted in the County of Kent.

Legal appointment

Alan Charles Macpherson Johnston QC to be an additional Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland, from January 12. He takes the judicial title Lord Johnston.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Stephen Jones, Vicar, Harold Hill, St George w. Noak Hill, St Thomas: to be Priest-in-charge, Harold Hill, St Paul (Chelmsford).

The Rev Alistair Kaye, Assistant Curate, St John, Great Horton (Bradford): to be Assistant Curate, Rushden St Mary and St Peter w. Newton Bromswold (Peterborough).

The Rev Christopher Knights, Curate, St Paul and St Peter the Great, Chichester, in charge of Westhampnett; and Tutor at Chichester Theological College (Chichester): to be Vicar, Holy Sepulchre, Ashington (Newcastle).

The Rev Robert Lawrance, Lecturer, St Peter, Bolton-Le-Moors: to be Vicar, St John w. St Mark, Bury (Manchester).

The Rev Kathleen Lees, permission to officiate: to be Assistant Curate (NSM), St Faith's, Gaywood (Norwich).

The Rev Richard Le Rossignol, permission to officiate East Charing: to be Honorary Assistant Curate, Brabourne w. Smeeth (Canterbury).

The Rev Peter Low, Curate, Plympton St Mary: : to be Rector, North Devonport Team Ministry (Exeter).

The Rev Sheila McLachlan: to be Parish Deacon-in-charge, Kingsnorth and Shadoxhurst (Canterbury).

The Rev Michael McNamara, Chaplain, St Nicholas Cathedral, Mwanza (Victoria Nyanza, Tanzania): to be Team Vicar, St Paul w. Emmanuel, Bolton (Manchester).

Lecture

Council of Christians and Jews

Sir Sigmund Sternberg held a lunchtime talk at St Mary Abchurch, EC4, on Wednesday, January 12, where he called for the establishment of a City Branch for the Council of Christians and Jews.

School announcements

The Cheltenham Ladies' College

Term started on January 11 at The Cheltenham Ladies' College. Half term is from 1.00pm, Friday, February 11, to Wednesday, February 16, inclusive. Sir Roger Young retired as Chairman of the Council in November 1993. He has been succeeded by Mr Peter Hedges, formerly Deputy Chairman of Taylor Woodrow plc and Managing Director of Taylor Woodrow Property Company. The combined concert with Cheltenham College takes place Sunday, March 13, at 7.30pm in Cheltenham Town Hall and includes Rossini's *Petite Messe Solonnelle* and Soirees Musicales, Rossini-Britten. The Sixth Form Drama production *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller takes place at 7.30pm in the Princess Hall on Thursday, March 17 and Friday, March 18. Term ends on Saturday, March 19, after Leaving Prayers in the Princess Hall.

St Elphin's School, Darley Dale, Matlock

Term began on January 10, 1994 and ends on March 25, 1994. This is a year of celebration for the School, founded in Warrington in January 1844. Festivities start with a Service of Thanksgiving in Derby Cathedral on January 15, with the Bishop of Warrington, Chairman of the Governors, as guest preacher. During the year a number of special events will commemorate the School's 150th birthday: a performance of Handel's *Messiah* in March; a Service in Warrington Parish Church and a weekend Reunion of former pupils at the School in May; an *Old Time Music Hall* in Buxton Opera House in June. Please telephone the Headmaster 0629 732687 for details of these and other events.

Christening

The daughter of Mr and the Hon Mrs Benjie Fraser was baptised Eliza Wedderburn by the Rev Desmond MacGinty at St Mary's, Eskadale, on January 3. The godparents are the Hon Mrs Robert Murphy, Miss Flora Fraser, the Hon Mrs Alastair Campbell, Miss Maria Pakenham (for whom Lady Antonia Pinter stood proxy), the Hon Hugo Fraser and the Master of Raey (for whom Mr Orlando Fraser stood proxy). Those also in attendance were Lord and Lady Teynham, Mr Harold Pinter, CBE, and Lady Loval.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Biddle, unitarian, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, baptised this day, 1615; Benedict Arnold, American general and traitor, Connecticut, 1741; Matthew Maury, hydrographer, Spottsylvania, Virginia, 1806; Henri Fantin-Latour, painter, Grenoble, 1836; Wilson Carlile, founder of the Church Army, Brixton, London, 1847; Pierre Loti, novelist, Rochefort, France, 1550; John Don Passos, novelist, Chicago, 1896; Albert Schweitzer, doctor, musician and missionary, Kaysenberg, France, 1875; Sir Cecil Beaton, photographer, London, 1904; Yukio Mishima, writer, Tokyo, 1925.

DEATHS: Edmond Halley, astronomer, London, 1742; George Berkeley, philosopher and Bishop of Cloyne 1734-53, Oxford, 1753; Samuel Spalding, philosopher, Cape of Good Hope, 1843; Jean Ingres, painter, Paris, 1867; Henry Manning, Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster 1865-92, London, 1892; Lewis Carroll (Charles Dodgson), writer, Guildford, 1898; Humphrey Bogart, actor, Hollywood, 1957; Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon, Prime Minister 1955-57, Salisbury, 1977; Peter Finch, actor, Los Angeles, 1977.

The last London Frost Fair, 1814.

The first demonstration of Alexander Graham Bell's telephone was to Queen Victoria at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, 1878.

Birthdays today

Captain Sir Alastair Aird, royal equerry, 63; Professor Sir Melville Arnott, cardiologist, 85; Mr Peter Bartworth, actor, 65; Mr Richard Briers, actor, 60; Baroness Brooke of Ystradfelte, 86; Lord Catto, 71; the Earl of Drogheda, 57; Miss Faye Dunaway, actress, 53; Mr Simon Fielding, chairman, General Council and Register of Osteopaths, 41; Miss Maina Gielgud, ballerina, 49; Miss Andrée Grenfell, former managing director, Glenby International, 54; Miss Sophie Harley, fashion designer, 29; Sir Arthur Hoole, former president, Law Society, 70; Professor Sir Hans Kornberg, master, Christ's College, Cambridge, 66; Mr John Lever, headmaster, Canford School, Dorset, 42; Mr Warren Mitchell, actor, 68.

Mr Trevor Nunn, theatre director, 54; Sir Neil Pritchard, diplomat, 83; Mr C.R. Reeves, banker, 58; Sir Vernon Seccombe, chairman-designate, Plymouth Acute Hospitals Trust, 66; Mrs Hazel Williamson, QC, 47; Sir John Woodcock, former HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, 62; Mr Roger Young, chief executive, Scottish Hydro-Electric, 50.

STEPHEN MARKESON



Drew Clemesia, 3, with Dawn Cheney, left, a volunteer, and Gill Constable, joint leader of the Springboard centre

Mothers who dared to think big

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE TIMES · BUSINESS IN THE COMMUNITY

CLEVEDON is a pleasant Victorian seaside town in Avon, about half-way between Bristol and Weston-super-Mare which, since the arrival of the M5 on its doorstep, has expanded as dormitory for commuters.

It is the sort of place where nothing much happens unless people determine to make things happen, like the mothers of six handicapped young children who, in 1987, formed a group to provide common support and a nursery.

"At that time the only facilities in the district were at local hospitals," Ann Ramsey, co-ordinator of the Springboard Opportunity Centre project, said. "There was nowhere for parents to meet, where they could discuss and share problems."

After four years of operating in small rooms and church halls, the group decided that the solution might be to rent a cabin and park it on a vacant site in the town. But they were persuaded by Bristol Bridge Initiatives, a firm which specialises in advice on community ventures, to set their sights higher and to consider building a permanent centre.

Despite an almost complete absence of funds, they were persuaded by Jon Webber of BBI that the project was feasible. The first site they chose met with planning difficulties after objections by residents, but eventually the council came to the rescue by offering a disused nursery garden in the grounds of a former manor house now used as a community centre.

A study funded by the Royal Institute of British Architects community architecture scheme confirmed the suitability of the site. Fund-raising under Mr Webber's direction proved an exhausting task, but the builders were prepared to proceed on promises. "We became very despondent at times," Ms Ramsey said. "The hardest thing was to keep spirits up and the momentum going."

A total of more than £250,000 was raised. The biggest single donation was £85,000 from the BBC's Children In Need appeal: the council provided £54,000 and the balance was met by contributions from more than 25 charitable trusts. Several firms provided building materials free.

The building, which opened in March last year, occupies some 1,700sq ft and is used by 42 children and their parents, with some 30 volunteer helpers and students on work experience. The children suffer from autism, cerebral palsy, Down's syndrome and other afflictions but appear lively and cheerful in their bright, spacious playrooms.

"Early intervention is crucial for any child, particularly those with learning difficulties," Ms Ramsey said. "You can do so much with little children and, with this sort of attention, they generally need much less help when they reach school age."

☐ *Springboard Opportunity Group has been shortlisted for the 1993 Community Enterprise Awards sponsored by* The Times *and Business in the Community. Winners will be announced on Monday.*

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.H. Bainbridge and Miss J.C. Cope
The engagement is announced between Rowen, younger son of Captain and Mrs Keith Bainbridge, of Doha, Qatar, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Cope, of Locks Heath, Hampshire.

Mr W.J. Benn and Miss I.F. Bloxidge
The engagement is announced between William, second son of Mr Timothy John Benn, of Tonbridge, Kent, and of Mrs Valerie Benn, of Malmesbury, Wiltshire, and Isabelle, youngest daughter of Mr John Anthony Bloxidge, of Bosco Grande, Tuscany, and of Mrs Carlotta Bloxidge, of Belgravia, London.

Mr J.A.D. Bullock and Miss N.J. Allen
The engagement is announced between James Andrew Douglas, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Douglas K. Bullock, of Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Nicola Jo, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard M. Allen, of Petham, Canterbury, Kent.

Mr G.H. Campbell and Miss M.M. Nelson
The engagement is announced between Gregor, younger son of Mr and Mrs James Campbell, of Totteridge, London, and Melissa, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Barry Nelson, of Limpsfield, Surrey.

Mr P.W. Chetwynd-Talbot and Miss S.V.M. Vaide
The engagement is announced between Paul, grandson of Mr Michael Chetwynd-Talbot, of Langford Court Farm, Upper Langford, Somerset, and the late Mrs Kay Chetwynd-Talbot, and Sophie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Raj Vaide, of Larch House, Nettlebed, Oxfordshire.

Mr S.W.C. Eyers and Miss L. Crossley Cooke
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Eyers, of La Tour d'Aigues, France, and Luci, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Crossley Cooke, of Little Coxwell, Oxfordshire.

Mr C.N. Felton and Miss J.J.S. Butler
The engagement is announced between Clive, son of Mr and Mrs J.W. Felton, of Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, and Judith, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs Ben Butler, of Sandhurst, Kent.

Mr M.J. Fenwick and Miss E.J. Turnbull
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs A.W. Fenwick, of Eaton Grange, Grantham, Lincolnshire, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mrs T.W. Knight, of Luckington Manor, Luckington, Wiltshire, and Mr J.W. Turnbull, of Sydney, Australia.

Mr J. Gilbert and Mrs J. Winch
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Gilbert, of Wigginton, North Yorkshire, and Jennifer, daughter of Mrs Estelle Arden, of Roehampton, London.

Mr P.G. Hale and Miss S.E.A. Hanbury
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr Charles Hale, of Melksham, Wiltshire, and Mrs Penelope Stevens, of Edenbridge, Kent, and Sarah, daughter of Mr Stephen Hanbury, of Lodève, France, and Mrs Julia Hanbury, of Golden Green, Kent.

Mr P.A. Harrison and Miss T.J. McGuirk
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of the late Mr Noel Harrison, and of Mrs Margaret Harrison, of Holywood, Belfast, and Terry, daughter of Mr and Mrs Victor McGuirk, of Baston, Peterborough.

Mr R.W. Hill and Miss N.J. Gwynne-Howell
The engagement is announced between Warwick, son of Mr and Mrs C. Hill, of Swanland, Hull, and Nicola, eldest daughter of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs M.R. Gwynne-Howell, of Winchester, Hampshire.

Mr J.P. Hoskins and Miss J.C. Lloyd
The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Mr and Mrs P.J. Hoskins, of Moor Park, Hertfordshire, and Joanna, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs B.R. Lloyd, of Birdingbury, Warwickshire.

Mr J.R. Lane Fox and Miss L.E. Charles-Jones
The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Mr and Mrs George Lane Fox, of Bramham Park, West Yorkshire, and Lucy, daughter of Hugh Charles-Jones, of Fishguard, Wales, and Pamela Charles-Jones, of Ampney St Peter, Gloucestershire.

Dr D.G. Leppard and Miss J. Robinson
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr John Leppard, of Worplesdon, Surrey, and the late Elizabeth Leppard, and Josephine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Arnold Robinson, of Burton Hastings, Warwickshire.

Mr P.W. Liardet and Miss S.L. Gomm
The engagement is announced between Patrick, son of Rear Admiral and Mrs Guy Liardet, of Meonstoke, Hampshire, and Sophie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Gomm, of Frating, Essex.

Mr J.M. Lockhart and Miss A.M.R.E. Taylor
The engagement is announced between Mungo, son of Mrs Angela Lockhart, of Chelsea and the late Mr Stephen Lockhart, and Anabel, daughter of Sir Jock and Lady Taylor, of Borgrove, West Sussex.

Mr B.M. McKinnon and Miss J.R. Stockley
The engagement is announced between Bruce, son of the late R.E. McKinnon and of Mrs N. McKinnon, of Torquay, Devon, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs I.A. Stockley, of Upper Poppleton, Yorkshire.

Mr C.S.L. Olver and Miss A. Kidani
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Major and Mrs Peter Olver, of Farnham, Surrey, and Aki, daughter of Mr and Mrs Yoshio Kidani, of Winkfield, Berkshire.

Mr T.J. Stirling and Fröken C. Wennerholm
The engagement is announced between Trevor, only son of Mr and Mrs John Stirling, of Lisnaskea, Co Fermanagh, and Charlotte, eldest daughter of Herr and Fru Axel Wennerholm, of Stockholm, Sweden.

Mr C.J. Tomkinson and Miss P.K. Ewan
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr C.R. Tomkinson, of Willington Hall, Cheshire, and of Mrs Ian Lofus, of Sherborne, Dorset, and Penelope, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs James Ewan, of Galmpton, Kingsbridge, Devon.

Mr P.N. van Geyzel Kelaart and Miss J.M.G. Leggott
The engagement is announced between Patrick, son of Mr and Mrs Brian van Geyzel Kelaart, of Richmond, Surrey, and Joanna, daughter of Mr M. Leggott, of New Hampshire, USA, and Mrs J.A. Leggott, of Spalding, Lincolnshire.

Mr P.A. Vickers and Miss N.J. Hindle
The engagement is announced between Piers, younger son of Mr and Mrs R.D. Vickers, of Seavington, Somerset, and Nicola, daughter of Mr R. Hindle, of Leigh, Worcestershire, and Mrs R.D. Middleton, of Sunningdale, Berkshire.

Mr G.W.W. Wells and Miss N.C. Booth
The engagement is announced between George, elder son of Mr and Mrs W.H.W. Wells, of Petersham, Surrey, and Nadya, only daughter of Sir Christopher and Lady Booth, of Regent's Park, London.

Mr S.C. Woodhead and Miss E.L. Kane
The engagement is announced between Charlie, elder son of Mr and Mrs James Woodhead, formerly of Kintbury and now of Puerto de Andraxt, and Emma, daughter of Mr Nick Kane, of Boxford, and Mrs Ann Kane, of East Garston.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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SPINSTER
LATE OF: The Shrubbery Rest Home, Wood Green Road, Wednesbury, West Midlands.
DIED AT: The Shrubbery Rest Home, Wood Green Road, Wednesbury, West Midlands.
ON 7TH: 27th day of November 1993
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All of the above named are required to apply to Messrs. Rees Page, Solicitors of 35/36, Dudley Street, Wolverhampton. WV1 3DY.

BIDDONS nee Reay : MARY DOROTHY BIDDONS nee Reay, widow late of Weymouth, Dorset, died there on the 26th November 1993
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OBITUARIES

JOHAN HOLST

Johan Holst, Foreign Minister of Norway, died in hospital in Oslo yesterday, following a stroke, aged 56. He was born in the Norwegian capital on November 29, 1937.



Johan Holst with Edvard, his four-year-old son, who also played a role in the secret Middle East peace talks

COMBINING formidable intelligence and eloquence with great personal charm, Johan Holst was a rare example of an academic specialist on foreign policy who made a successful transition to government service. Following an extensive academic career which culminated in his appointment as director of the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, he served as Minister of Defence in Gro Harlem Brundtland's second Labour Government from May 1986 to October 1989 and was made Foreign Minister in April last year.

His role in helping to organise 14 rounds of secret talks in Norway between the Israeli government and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, which led to the peace accord signed in Washington in September, was regarded by everyone concerned as a crucial one and led to his name being put forward as candidate for the 1994 Nobel peace prize.

Johan Jorgan Holst's academic career began at the Norwegian Army Language School where he graduated in Russian. He then went on to take a degree in government at New York's Columbia University. Through the 1960s his professional training alternated between Norway and the United States while from the 1970s his career switched between the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs and ministerial posts in Labour governments. He joined the institute as Director of Research in 1969 and directed it for five years from 1981.

He entered government as State Secretary in the Defence Ministry in 1976 and then took the same post in the Foreign Ministry in 1979. In 1986 he again started in the Defence Ministry before moving to foreign affairs, only this time in the top jobs.

His reputation as a defence analyst and commentator was based on his firm grounding in American strategic theory combined with an intimate knowledge of European politics. He was a research associate at the Harvard Center for International Affairs during its golden age in the early 1960s.

What distinguished Holst was the technical expertise he had acquired during two years at the Hudson Institute in New York from 1967 to 1969. The Hudson Institute was presided over by the larger-than-life figure of Herman Kahn, who had gained notoriety popularising some of the wilder versions of nuclear strategy. At Hudson, Holst mastered the intricacies of nuclear weapons and doctrine. He took it sufficiently seriously to co-edit a book which made the controversial case for the deployment of an anti-ballistic missile system in the US to guard against Soviet attack. However, by the time the debate was revived in the 1980s in the form of President Reagan's SDI initiative, Holst's ideas had moved on.

During the 1970s he was recognised as one of Europe's leading defence analysts. He was a prominent figure in the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies and was in regular demand as a speaker and author. He had an exceptional ability to convey technicalities without resorting to jargon, and to develop complex and subtle ideas without becoming convoluted. He was regularly tipped as a prospective director of IISS. He had been scheduled to deliver the institute's annual Alistair Buchan lecture later this year.

Although an orthodox Atlanticist in his views, as the 1970s progressed he began to explore more the interaction between the military and political aspects of European security. This began to create a distance between him and his former colleagues who could think of little else but the nuances of the military balance.

Another dimension was added to his thinking once in government. This was a time of great debates on Nato nuclear strategy which led to the December 1979 decision to place Cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe. Holst found himself walking a delicate line between leftist opponents of any nuclear deployments (who had to be taken seriously by a Labour Party minister in a country which did not permit peacetime deployments of nuclear weapons on its soil) and his fellow members of the Nato establishment. While seeking to persuade the anti-nuclear movement that the new missiles did not represent reckless warmongering, he also sought to encourage Nato to acknowledge public anxieties and not to disregard the potential of arms control negotiations.

This potential he continued to explore while out of government in the first half of the 1980s, turning his mind to the role of confidence-building measures as a means of breaking the impasse which then afflicted all arms control negotiations. At the same time he sought to make sense of the pressures evidently building up within the Soviet Union and their implications for the rest of Europe. Once back in government he had the opportunity to deal with these problems at first hand, as Europe came to terms with the collapse of the Warsaw Pact.

It was ironic that Johan Holst gained his greatest international prominence not so much through his contribution to debates on European security but as one of the main architects of the breakthrough in relations between Israel and the PLO. For much of 1993 he devoted his energies to bringing about a dialogue between Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister and Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader. He was credited with helping break the ice in early contacts between the two sides by taking a "family approach" to the process, welcoming the protagonists into his Oslo home and involving his second wife, Marianne Heiberg. Holst insisted that "conviviality was at least as important as secrecy in this peace process," and told how his four-year-old son, Edvard, had played on their living-room floor with Israeli and Palestinian delegates, helping to "bring a little warmth and spontaneity" when the tension rose.

That this dialogue was kept secret for so long — preventing opponents from mobilising in opposition until it could be announced — and that agreement was reached at all says much for Holst's capacity for creative diplomacy. The accord provided remarkable evidence of the extent to which a talented individual can raise the profile of a small country.

Because of his grasp of European affairs Holst was widely considered as a natural candidate to become the next Secretary-General of Nato.

In his spare time, Holst enjoyed listening to the music of Gustav Mahler. He also collected stamps. He is survived by his wife Marianne, Edvard, and by his four children from a previous marriage.

FRANCES WAGHORN

Frances Waghorn, Olympic ice skater, died from cancer on January 5, aged 43. She was born on June 5, 1950.

FROM her first junior ice-skating championship entry in 1963 Frances Waghorn showed promise, and in 1967 she was third in the senior event behind Sally Stapleford and Patricia Dodd. This earned her selection the following year for Britain's international team.

In many ways 1968 was her most important year. She competed for the European title in Sweden, and then in the Winter Olympic Games at Grenoble. She skated well up to form and landed all her jumps on crisp, clean edges. A month later she beat skaters from seven countries to take the bronze medal in the Edinburgh Trophy — her best result in international skating — and at the end of the year, and again in 1969, she was runner-up for the British title.

Although she never won a major championship title, Frances Waghorn a tall, strong young woman with distinctive red-gold hair, exemplified all that was best in sport. A fine skater and a determined competitor, she was modest in demeanour and friendly towards all her rivals. She manifested the spirit of Baron de Coubertin's original Olympic dictum — that in sport taking part is as important as winning.

Frances Muriel Waghorn was born in Surrey into a happy family circle. Her parents, never obtrusive or militant, were always her staunchest supporters at the rinkside. They encouraged her earliest steps on the ice at Streatham when she was seven-and-a-half. Taught first by Charles Gorton, she later went to the famous Gerschwiler brothers from Switzerland — briefly to Jacques, who coached the 1952 Olympic gold medalist Jeannette Altwegg, and then for most of her career to Arnold Gerschwiler at Richmond, trainer of many world and Olympic champions.

She took part in the European championships of 1969 and 1970, and in her only world championship in the latter year. She then turned professional, first to join ice shows, later to become a patient and much respected teacher at Streatham.

In 1972 she married Peter Robinson. He survives her together with a son and a daughter.



ERIC ESTORICK

Eric Estorick, art collector and dealer, died on December 25 aged 80. He was born in New York on February 13, 1913.



ERIC ESTORICK, who became well known in the art world for his extensive knowledge and collection of 20th-century art, was not always an easy man with whom to deal. Nevertheless he impressed with his eye for a future masterpiece and a present bargain.

His entry into the art world was late. Before the war, he grew up in Brooklyn as Elihu Estorick, the only son of Russian-Jewish immigrant parents, and seemed set for an academic career. After gaining a doctorate in sociology at New York University, he taught at Columbia. He came to England before the Second World War and spent the war years in propaganda work, as head of the British Empire Division of US Broadcast Intelligence.

He had already written one book on Stafford Cripps, the future Labour Chancellor, in 1940 and wrote a second biography of him in 1949, the year of Cripps's greatest fame. He continued his writing career in London, where he settled after marrying Salome Dessau in 1947. At that time she was busy designing underwear for Marks & Spencer and boosting Britain's textile industry through a huge sale of newly-developed lace technology.

During this period, Estorick himself worked briefly for Marks & Spencer, also writing an unpublished history of the firm, while editing a *Commonwealth Series* of books written by Commonwealth leaders. But at the same time, inspired by an art collection he had seen in New York, he started buying works by contemporary Italian artists.

As the bug grew, and he discovered a rich vein of salesmanship and clientele, he started travelling and exhibiting. Eventually, he and Salome opened the Grosvenor Gallery at the first of its Mayfair addresses in 1960. They were the perfect partnership — he with extraordinary flair and magnetic personality, she with straight-down-the-line realism and openness.

His first collection, which had lined the walls of their St John's Wood home, went on show at the Tate Gallery in 1956 and was an eye-opener to a still blimpish and blinkered public. Futurists and cubists such as Cremonini, Guttoso, Severini, Sironi, de Chirico and Campigli were on show, many for the first time. He also became very interested in the art of the Soviet Union, showing and promoting Archipenko, Kaplan, Lissitzky and Rabin. He became a world expert on the flowering of Russian art in the Revolutionary period, the Russian avant-garde movement.

His travels to Eastern Europe excited the interest of the Czechoslovak government, which had inherited the Nazi collection in Prague of Scrolls of the Law, looted from destroyed Jewish communities and intended as part of a museum display to show the relics of what had been planned as an extinct people. He negotiated with the Czech Foreign Trade Corporation to bring the 15,000 scrolls to London, with the help of an Anglo-Jewish benefactor, and deposited them with the Westminster Synagogue in 1964.

In the mid-1960s, he and his wife were introduced to Erte, the Russian-born Romain de Tirtoff, who had settled in Paris after the Russian Revolution and become a highly successful prewar art deco designer. They served as his agents, repopularised his work and set him on a newly successful and profitable career which lasted until Erte's death in his nineties in 1990.

In the 1980s Eric Estorick turned his attention to Israel, which he visited regularly, giving lavishly to the Israel Museum in Jerusalem and helping to establish the Hebrew University's centre for Jewish art. He funded exhibitions in Jerusalem of William Blake, Leon Bakst and an exhibition dedicated to Erte and the Russian avant-garde movement. His expertise was used in documenting Jewish art from the former Soviet Union at the new Jewish art centre. After Salome's death in 1989, he donated a study area at the Israel Museum in her memory.

He is survived by his son and daughter.

Catharina Dales

CATHARINA (IEN) DALES, Dutch Home Affairs Minister, died of heart failure at her home in Utrecht on the night of January 9 aged 62.

An unrepentant smoker with little concern for her media image, she was appointed to her post in Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers's centre-left coalition Cabinet in November 1989.

A no-nonsense politician, not shy of dispersing journalists by swinging her handbag at them, Dales was responsible for negotiating wage deals with the powerful civil service unions and acquired a reputation for driving a hard bargain. She was admired by her fellow ministers for her professionalism and compassion

She was unmarried.

SPARTACUS DEFEAT

(From Our Correspondent)

Copenhagen Jan. 13

The Berlin government on Saturday dealt a decisive blow against the Spartacists. The battle round the *Tageblatt* building ended about 12 o'clock in the complete defeat of the Spartacists, who fled across the roofs of the houses. Towards morning the last Spartacist fortress, the Botzov breweries, fell into the hands of the government, and later their headquarters, the police office, also fell. Eichhorn had disappeared.

In the fight around the *Vorwärts* building the Spartacists are believed to have lost 300 killed and wounded. The government troops were furious at the resistance they encountered, and it is reported that at the dragoons' barracks, to which 400 prisoners were taken, seven were shot down. Spartacists caught with arms in their hands have in many cases been shot instantly, in spite of the strict prohibition of the government.

All the newspapers are again published, but the *Rote Fahne* has been confiscated. The *Freiheit* says that the government has gained a Pyrrhic victory. The government soldiers with bombs and grenades destroyed the last remains of the confidence which the Berlin proletariat still had in the government. The *Republik* says:—

Death is raging through Berlin. A socialist government made the giant engines of Prussian militarism fire on socialists who fight and die for an idea. Future historians will point to January 11 as the last result of war madness. It is worse than the insanity of the beginning of the war insanity. The days of 1914 have returned.

The following news from Berlin has been transmitted through the wireless stations of the German government:—

Organised military forces of the Republican Army which intervened in the fighting on Saturday against the Spartacus League worked the whole night. The Spartacus strongholds in the Berlin Press quarter were cleared after a sharp battle and the newspapers are again in the hands of their rightful owners. Thus is also the case with regard to the Wolff Telegraph Agency.

The number of victims in killed and wounded is unfortunately extraordinarily high; the figure cannot, however, be determined as yet. The bloodshed was increased by the continually repeated acts of provocation on the part of the Spartacus people, who tried government troops by court martial and had them shot. In this manner, seven government soldiers lost their lives. Such acts had necessarily to be met by reprisals.

The son of Karl Liebknecht is among those arrested, and it is said that the Bolshevist propaganda leader, Karl Radek, was also taken. The rumour of the arrest of Rosa Luxemburg is not yet confirmed. That lady has left Berlin and is said to have arrived by motor car in Hamburg. The last points held by the Spartacus people are the Police Presidency and the Botzov brewery in the north of Berlin. Preparations are now being made for the storming and occupation also of these buildings.

ON THIS DAY

January 14 1919

The Spartacus movement, named after the revolt led by the Roman gladiator, was formed in 1915 to overthrow the imperial Government; in 1918 it created the German Communist Party, but was suppressed by the paramilitary Freikorps.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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among you, said John, though you do not know him, stands the one who is to come after me. I am not worthy to unfasten the strap of his sandal.
St. John 1 : 26.27 (REB)

BIRTHS

BROOKE – On 12th January in London, to Katharine, wife of Francis, a daughter.

BROUGHAM – On January 12th at St Mary's Praed Street, to *Julie (née Say) and* Patrick, a son James William.

CRICHTON – On 12th January, to Emma, wife of Desmond, a daughter.

CUTHIE – On January 12th 1994, to Charlotte and John, a son.

LANBURY-WILLIAMS – On January 6th 1994, to Alexandra (née Ringrose-Voase) and Michael, a daughter, Katya Alexandra, a sister for C.J.

RODGES – On January 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Helen (née Antcliff) and Jeremy, a beautiful daughter, Holly Mawgan.

SLANE – On January 7th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London, to Alan and Linda (née Reid), a beautiful daughter, Laura Hannah.

SILLAR – On January 11th 1994, to Carola and Peter, a son, Alexander.

SUTCLIFFE – On January 10th, to Sophia (née Yerburgh) and Richard, a son, Oscar John Kirkpatrick.

SCOTT – On 6th January at 8.55 am, to Oona (née Johnson) and Jeremy, a daughter, Joanna Elizabeth, a sister for Katharine, Clare and Nicholas.

DEATHS

ABSON – On January 11th, John Kenneth Abson M.B.E., F.P.I.C.S., aged 88, Dearly loved husband of Gare and dearest father of Jennifer, Rosemary and Charlotte and a much loved grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Eastbourne, on Thursday January 20th at 3pm, followed by cremation. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Friends of the Eastbourne Hospitals c/o 9 Upperton Road, Eastbourne.

ASERAPPA – On 11th January 1994, John Philip CBE (Jack). Beloved husband of Willy and father of Jean. Funeral private.

ASHBY – On 9th January 1994, peacefully in hospital, Charles Bradwin of Chesham. Much loved and sadly missed husband of Hilda, father of Melanie and Catherine. Service to be held at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Friday 21st January at 2 pm. Family flowers only please but donations, if desired, may be sent to the British Heart Foundation c/o W.A. Truelove & Son Ltd., 31 High Street, Chesham, Bx. SM5 3RE.

AUTEN – On January 7th, peacefully in hospital, Joan Mabra. Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium on Wednesday 19th Jan. at 2pm (West Chapel). No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to the Variety Club of Great Britain. Enquiries to W. Garstin (071) 935-4866.

BAKER – On 12th January peacefully in Peterborough after a long illness, Sir Ivor Baker CBE, DL. Dearly loved husband of Josephine, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, aged 88 years. Funeral Service at Peterborough Crematorium at 12 noon on Friday 21st January. No flowers please, donations if desired to Age Concern, Lincoln Road, Peterborough. There will be a memorial gathering which will be announced later.

CHRAPOWICKI – On Friday 7th January, peacefully at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, Kossanny Antoni, aged 70, beloved husband of the late Avery and much loved father of John. Funeral Service Wednesday 19th January at Marylebone, Old Hatfield, at 2 pm, followed by interment at St Luke's, Hatfield. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

CURRIE – On January 12th 1994 peacefully after a long illness borne with courage and dignity, Sir Alastair Currie, Emeritus Professor of Pathology, much loved and loving husband, father and grandfather. Funeral Service at Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh, on Tuesday January 18th at 2 pm. Cremation thereafter private. Family flowers only please but donations may be sent to Cancer Research Campaign.

DREW – Anthony Greville, on 12th January, peacefully at St Bartholomew's Hospital, beloved husband to Valerie, brother to Joanna, father to John and grandfather to Olivia. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium at midday on Friday 21st January. Family flowers only but donations if desired to the National Asthma Campaign.

FAIRBAIRN – Peacefully, at home, on January 12th 1994, Carlise Fairbairn, aged 75. Funeral at Morpeth(all) Crematorium, Pentland Chapel, Edinburgh, on Wednesday January 19th at 2.45 pm. Floral tributes may be sent to Thomas Brown & Sons, East Port, Melrose. tel: (0896) 822632.

GAIRDNER – On January 12th peacefully at home aged 84, Pam, widow of Charles and of Cecil Ella, much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private cremation followed by Service of Thanksgiving at Twyford Parish Church on Thursday January 20th at 12.15 pm.

HARDY – On 13th January 1994, Colonel Michael (E.M.P.) Hardy, formerly of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. Very dearly loved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral strictly private. No flowers please.

HOBHOUSE – Paul Redfard in Oban, after a short illness. Much loved husband of Jeannie and father of Georgina, Niall and David. Family funeral on the Isle of Colonsay 15th January. Memorial Service in Somerset to be announced later.

INGRAM – Hugh (Herbert Charles), on January 12th in hospital, aged 83 years, of Gedleston, Beccles, Suffolk. At one time Editor of the Illustrated London News. Dear husband of Perpetua. Funeral Service at St Faith's Crematorium, Norwich, Norfolk, on Tuesday January 18th at 12.30 pm. No flowers by request.

JOHNSTON-ROAD – John Edward, on 11th January 1994, aged 94, quietly finally, at Worthing, Sussex.

LANGFORD – Peacefully in Nottingham on 12th January *Mary Florence, widow of Dr.* Alfred Langford of Hereford. Dearly loved mother and grandmother. Funeral at Barton Hall, Hereford, at 1.30pm on Tuesday 18th January. Donations if desired to Scripture Union.

LAWLESS – On January 12th, peacefully at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, Christopher aged 24, beloved son of Phillip and brother of Samantha. Service at Mortlake Crematorium, New Meadow Path, Townmead Road, Richmond, on Thursday 20th January at 10.30.am.

LITTLE – On 10th January, peacefully, James Douglas Campbell, Commander RN (retd) aged 87. Funeral Service at Chelmsford Crematorium at 3 pm on Thursday 20th January. Family flowers only.

MALLOCH – Suddenly while on holiday in Lanzarote on 3rd January 1994, Joseph Malloch M.B.E. Beloved husband of Maureen and dear father of Neil. Funeral Service at Clydebank Crematorium, North Dalnottar, on Tuesday 18th January at 1.30 pm to which all friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to the Shipwrecked Mariners Fund.

McBRIDE – On January 12th 1994 peacefully in hospital after a long brave fight, Andrew Kenneth John aged 62 years, of Hoylake, Wirral, dearly loved husband of Pam, loving father of Sally and Debby, dear brother of Joan, father-in-law to David and Jonty and grandfather of Rebecca, Annabel and Bryony. Funeral Service at St Hildeburgh's Parish Church, Stanley Road, Hoylake, Wirral, on Thursday 20th January at 12.30pm followed by cremation at Landican Crematorium at 1.30pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Clatterbridge Cancer Research Trust c/o Pearson Collinson, 91 Alberton Road, Mossley Hill, Liverpool 18.

MURRAY SMITH – On January 12th 1994, Major George William Murray Smith M.C., much loved husband of the late Billy, father of Gina and David, grandfather of Natasha and Jessica. Funeral Service at St Michael's Church, Alfriston, Sussex, on Thursday 20th January 1994 at 2 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Wiltshire Yeomanry.

PAINE – On January 13th, peacefully after a long illness, in a Woking nursing home, Sheila Mary aged 76 years, much loved wife of Peter Paine and very dear mother of Jennifer, Robin, Alison and Richard and caring grandmother of her nine grandchildren. Funeral Service at St Andrews Church, White Rose Lane, Woking, on Thursday January 20th at 2 pm, followed by interment at Send Cemetery. Flowers may be sent to Cyril H. Lowegrove, Funeral Directors, 32 Guildford Road, Woking GU22 7QQ, or donations to the Alzheimers Disease Society at the same address.

PEEL – Bridget Hesworth on January 9th 1994, in Weare Gifford. Much loved wife of Oliver and sister of Elizabeth Beckwith. Funeral Service will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Weare Gifford, on Tuesday January 18th at 10 am followed by cremation (family only).

POUND – On January 11th, Alan, beloved son of Margaret and long standing friend of Louis. Funeral Service on Wednesday 19th January at Holy Trinity Church, Clapham Common at 1.15 pm, followed by cremation.

PRITCHARD – On January 11th 1994, peacefully in Eastbourne, Ted (E.P.). Beloved husband of Eleanor and father of Joyce and Robin. Funeral Service at Eastbourne Crematorium on Tuesday 18th January at 10.30 am. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Glaucoma Association (International) c/o Haine & Son Ltd., 19 South Street, Eastbourne.

RANKIN – Cecil aged 67, suddenly at home in Sanderstead on 6th January. Originally from Merseyside. Teacher for 25 years in South East London. Loving father of Stephen and Dominic. Requiem Mass at St Michael's Church, West Croydon, on January 18th at 12.30 pm. Flowers or donations for the National Autistic Society may be sent to J.B. Shakespeare Ltd., 67 George Street, Croydon.

RATTRAY – On January 11th 1994, Robin Campbell. Dearly loved and sadly missed by Ulla, Sandy, Adam and Marc, also by his brothers and sisters, their families and by many friends. Funeral at Seale Church at 2.30 pm Tuesday January 18th. Family flowers only please. Donations to British Red Cross, East Street, Farnham, Surrey.

ROSSI – On 10th January 1994, peacefully in a London Hospital, Elizabeth (Betty), deeply missed by all her friends.

ROWLANDS – Peacefully at Sunningdale on January 11th 1994, Richard (Richie) Samuel Rowlands. Devoted husband of his late wife Jane, much loved father of Susan and dearest grandfather of Rupert, Phyllida, Edward, Susannah and Camilla. The funeral service will be at Putney Vale Cemetery Chapel, Kingston Road, Putney, London SW15, on Thursday 20th January at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the British Diabetic Assoc., c/o Lines Bannister & Co. Ltd. Funeral Directors, 69 High Street, Ascot SL5 7HP. tel: (0344) 20266.

SEYMOUR – On January 12th 1994, suddenly at home, Nigel Joseph. Dearly loved husband of Joan, loved father of Anne and Sandra and very dear grandfather of Sally, Mark, Lucy and Paul. Service at Pixdot Church, Kent, on Tuesday January 18th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations in his memory to the British Red Cross Society, London. Enquiries to W. Hodges & Co., Sevenoaks, Kent, tel: (0732) 454457.

STERNFELD – At St Luke's, Oxford, on 13th January 1994, scarcely 6 months after Sophia, his beloved wife of 50 years, Frederick William Sternfeld, scholar and musician, aged 79. Funeral at Oxford Crematorium at 4 pm Wednesday 19th January. Donations, if desired, in lieu of flowers, to Oxford Kidney Unit Trust Fund, Churchill Hospital, Oxford OX3 7LJ.

TAINSH – On January 12th, peacefully in Boldremead Rest Home after a long illness borne with great courage, John (Iain) Ramsay, aged 86. Beloved husband of Madeleine and dearly loved and loving father of Sheila and Rose. Thanksgiving Service for his life at St John the Baptist, Boldre, on Thursday January 20th at 2.30 pm. No flowers. If desired donations to Boldremead Rest Home, Lymington.

WAGSTAFF – On January 9th, suddenly, Howard Henshaw, aged 82 years, formerly of South Croydon. Beloved husband of the late Sylvia and dearly loved father of Elizabeth (deceased), Nikki and Chris, Margaret and Keith. Dear grandpa to Hazel, Jenny and Christopher Roper. Thanksgiving Service at Emmanuel Church, Normandon Road, South Croydon, on Monday January 24th at 12 noon, followed by cremation at Croydon Crematorium. No flowers please but donations if desired for St Christopher's Hospice or the Queen Elizabeth Foundation for the Disabled, may be sent to J.B. Shakespeare Ltd., 67 George Street, Croydon.

WELLS – On Tuesday January 11th, peacefully in hospital, Kathleen Mary aged 69, of Walsingham, Norfolk. Devoted sister of Dennis, former social worker and Centre Organiser Red Cross, Chelsea. The funeral at R.C. Church, Wells-Next-The-Sea, Norfolk, on Wednesday January 19th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Charities Aid Foundation, 48 Pembury Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2JD quoting a/c number 250009532.

ZINO – John, husband of Penny, father of Sarah, Mark and Sam and brother of Jeremy. Died at his home in New Zealand on January 12th after a brave struggle against cancer.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

EISNER – Stephen. In loving memory of our much cherished husband and father, who died nearly twenty years ago. Today would have been his 70th birthday. Brigitte, Katherine, Julia, Helen.

HUTCHINSON (UZIELLI) – David Rex Caldwell. Remembering with love a wonderful husband and father who died 14th January 1974.

SMELLIE – F.V.S. (née Norton). In the memory of the 5th anniversary of the loss of our beloved mother, whom we shall always remember.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BBC donor, under 35, preferably completed family, accept by graduate. Please Reply to Box No 5616 giving phone number.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

HICKEN – A Memorial Service for Winifred Fanny Hicken MA, DPhil, Tutor and Fellow in Classics, Lady Margaret Hall 1944-1981, will be held in the Chapel, Lady Margaret Hall, on Saturday 19th February 1994 at 2.30 pm.

BIRTHDAYS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The British Kidney Patient Association
Bordon, Hants, GU35 9JZ
Telephone 0420 472021/2
Reg Charity No: 270288 B.K.P.A.

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GURKHA WELFARE TRUST

MOTORING

One man's ordeal of never-ending parking fines illustrates the problem of cars with duplicate number plates

Innocent driver's number is up yet again

Arthur Durrant has never committed any kind of driving offence in half a century of trouble-free driving. Yet he is being buried under a pile of parking fines for a car he doesn't own, and has never seen.

He has been threatened with court action, fines, and having his home confiscated, and has to answer every summons that falls through his letter box. Again and again he has had to prove his innocence since his ordeal began a year ago.

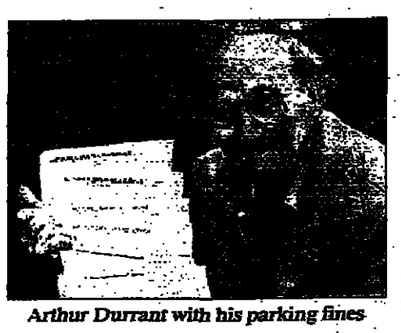
Mr Durrant, 71, of Peacehaven, East Sussex, has visited his local police station many times to prove he and his vehicle were nowhere near the scene when another car, a "ringer" believed to have been stolen and fitted with registration plates identical to those carried by his 12-year old Honda saloon, incurred the penalty.

Now the Automobile Association has backed his call for it to be made more difficult to buy car number plates. And it has said that changes in the way in which parking tickets are issued could mean that up to 80,000 motorists a year in London alone could soon find themselves in Mr Durrant's predicament.

From July, every London borough will take responsibility for its own parking enforcement. The AA says that whereas in the past many motorists ignored parking tickets issued by police or traffic wardens, the more persistent borough councils will pursue tens of thousands of cases annually where fines are sent to the vehicle's previous owners or to innocent motorists such as Mr Durrant.

The problem is two-fold. First, there is no legal requirement for garages and accessory shops to demand identification or proof of car ownership from somebody asking for a number plate to be made up. Second, motorists who sell a car persistently fail to fill in the V5 registration document, which notifies the Swansea Driver and Vehicle Licencing Agency that the vehicle has changed hands.

Anne Snelson, assistant head of Highways and Transportation Policy at the AA, says: "We are aware of the difficulties, but we do not think it should be as easy as it is now to walk in and have a number plate made up. We would like to see a requirement that a V5 registration document is presented. However, there are difficulties to that, such as the London-based driver who has a small bump in Manchester. He has to have a new number plate made up to replace the damaged one if he is not to be left driving illegally, but his documents are at home hundreds of miles away."



Arthur Durrant with his parking fines

A spokeswoman for the Swansea Driver and Vehicle Licencing Authority says: "You can buy number plates without any documentation. We have looked at requiring people to produce a V5 registration document to purchase plates but felt that would be burdensome, and also that somebody intent on getting plates might simply steal them."

Being penalised for offences committed in one's former car is an easier problem to resolve. Anne Snelson says: "We urge car owners to fill in all details on the registration form when they sell a car, and to send the form to the DVLA themselves. You must not leave it to the new owner or the dealer to complete the form and send it on."

The first of a dozen parking tickets from Westminster City Council and the Metropolitan Police, supposedly issued against Mr Durrant's Y-registered Accord, arrived a year ago. Despite sending dozens of letters of explanation and making numerous phone calls, and even receiving in return letters of apology from the police, the tickets keep coming.

Once the parking ticket has been issued and sent by computer, the driver has to respond. Fortunately each time a parking ticket has arrived, Mr Durrant has been able to prove that he could not possibly have been the offender. He says: "It is aggravating, because I have to respond to the court summonses. The legal letters are threatening, which has been worrying, especially for my wife, Florence."

With six million cars a year changing hands, the AA believes thousands of motorists risk finding the bailiffs at the door for a parking offence of which they have no knowledge. Computer technology may offer a partial remedy. The Parking Committee for London is now examining the possibility of a central computerised register of "problem" numbers. When such a vehicle, like the London "ringer" is ticketed, the car would be clamped when next found if it was logged on the "problem" register, with a chance the offender would be caught.

That is little consolation for Mr Durrant. The latest letter he has received from the Metropolitan Police has assured him that if the car carrying his number plate is ticketed again the summons will be blocked by the central police computer. But the letter says they can do nothing to help should the car start collecting tickets elsewhere in the country.

VAUGHAN FREEMAN

Safety in a small package

Compact cars become more attractive as petrol prices soar and parking is more difficult to find. But how safe are they?

Kevin Eason looks at a super-safe Fiesta

The old adage that a good big 'un always beats a good little 'un has been enough to scare buyers away from compact cars. But this is the age of the small car as fuel prices rise and there is more pressure on parking space.

This is also the age of the two-car family, although few household budgets can sustain a pair of garage-filling gas guzzlers.

While the mainstay of the annual holiday and the long trip may be a substantial five-seater, a growing number of families now need a "runabout" for commuting and shopping trips or for the teenagers clutching their new licences to get about in.

That means either something second-hand or a new car from the showroom pitched at bargain-basement prices. When it comes to choice, however, brows furrow because buying a car for less than £7,000 too often means giving up too much in comfort, security and safety.

Take safety, for example. Many people are terrified of the prospect of an accident in a car only two-thirds the length of a Range Rover and about half its weight.

There simply is not enough bonnet length between you and anything you hit. The rear is even worse, particularly in the modern breed of hatchbacks which usually have a tiny boot space between the rear window and the back seats — not enough room for comfort, according to some drivers.

Department of Transport figures issued in May showed that the average percentage of drivers in a Ford Fiesta — the second best-selling car in the country — injured in a two-car crash is 71 per cent, about average for the small car sector. For a Jaguar saloon, the figure is only 28 per cent and the average for the large car sector as a whole is 45 per cent. That is an alarming gap which probably has more to do with size than engineering. After all, featherweight boxer Barry McGuigan would have had trouble pitting his nine stones against the bulk of Mike Tyson.

Now Ford is leading a charge by car makers to improve small cars, offering big car features at relatively low prices.

Britain's largest car company launched its 1994 versions of the Fiesta this week and top of the list of improvements are safety and security, changes which will make competitors take notice.

While exterior changes are cosmetic, everything under the skin has been radically improved. Engineers have applied the technique pioneered on the Escort and Mondeo to provide a complete safety package — from a driver's airbag all the way to a substantially strengthened frame.

> Women are key decision makers in buying small cars

There are 11 key changes, Ford says, which will help protect driver and passengers if the worst happens and their new Fiesta is in a crash.

Inside the car, the key improvements are the addition of a driver's side airbag — which deploys within 40 milliseconds at impacts over 20mph — as a standard fitting (passenger airbags are an option), better front seats more rigidly attached to the floor pan and a tougher attachment to "grab" the seat belt, preventing driver or passenger being thrown towards the dashboard on impact.

What drivers cannot see and what Ford has concentrated on is the bracing and strengthening of the existing Fiesta frame into a newer and tougher package.

The improved bodyshell uses reinforcing struts to distribute the load of the impact more evenly around the car. That means that crashes at offset angles — the most frequent — are absorbed better.

The strengthening goes right around the car, taking in the engine compartment, door frame, sills, roof rails and body floor. There are also stronger metal tubes in the doors for side impacts.

Ford has used a heavier metal gauge for its strengthening beams and says that the improvements mean that the new Fiesta already passes stringent European side-impact legislation for 1995.

It is not just safety that buyers worry about in a small car. Stepping into a "mini" has too often meant giving up comfort and security.

Few small cars offer the sort of alarm-immobiliser package usually found only in executive cars. Not many. The Fiesta, however, gets the new Safeguard locking system used in the 1994 Escorts.

The double door locks cannot be opened, nor the car started, without the correct key containing a tiny transponder that communicates one of 49 billion codes to the engine management system. All locks are shielded and operated by shrouded cables instead of rods, which could be tripped by determined thieves.

Meanwhile, Ford promises that motorists will appreciate the greater eco-friendliness of the new Fiesta's engines, which include a low-emission 1.4-litre version, producing 20 per cent less carbon monoxide and 50 per cent less unburnt hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides than current engines.

Interiors are as good as they get in a car of this size. Prices have not yet been announced, but Ford says they will be similar to those of the earlier range, despite body changes and safety improvements.

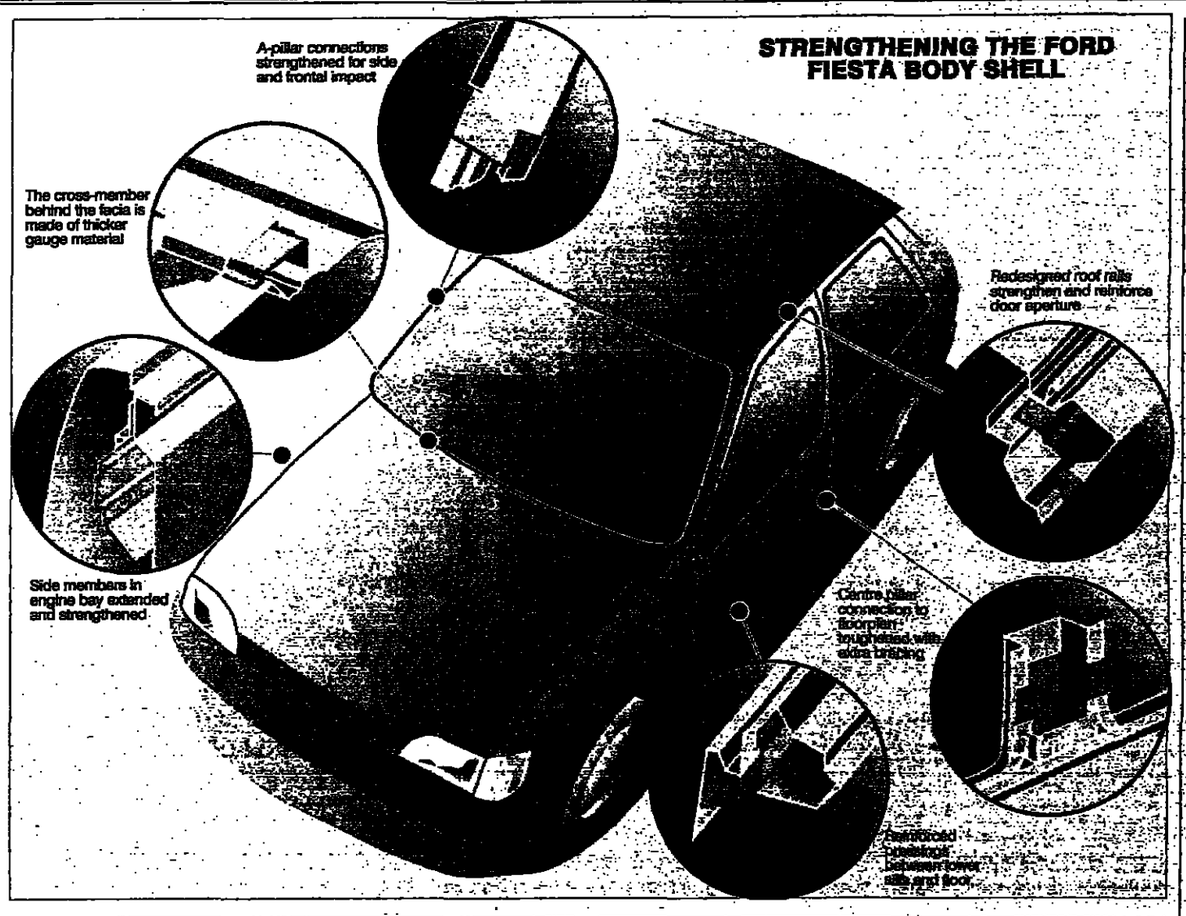
Coupled with Ford's huge financing programme, the 1994 Fiesta presents enough of a package to stimulate the competition in what is already a fiercely contested segment of the market. Manufacturers of small cars will have to work hard and spend millions of pounds just to keep up.

But that means buyers are the ultimate winners with small cars which are more fuel economic, safer and more secure — yet still at bargain prices.

Buying a budget car is easier than ever as car makers attempt to attract women, first-time buyers and families looking for a second car.

Women are key decision-makers in the purchase of small cars. They are usually on the lookout for cars which are not only cheap but comfortable, safe and economical to run.

Statistics show that women drive half of all new cars but research suggests they have a hand in 80 per cent of all purchases. And when it comes to trying to buy a car for under £7,000, their judgment is often critical.





The Fiesta LX: strengthening goes right around the car

Here are some of the bargain buys for under £7,000.

FORD FIESTA 1.1 HCS: £6,595 three-door, £6,955 five-door. Safe and sound. Top speed 88mph, 48.3mpg.

LADA SAMARA 1.5GL: £6,495. Still a Spartan feel but the Samara is a competent workhorse despite some worries over reliability and resale values. Top speed 97mph, 38.2mpg.

FIAT CINQUECENTO SX: £5,416. Fun to drive, very cheap. Only a 900cc engine but oozing style, unlike most of its competitors. Top speed 87mph, 49.2mpg.

PEUGEOT 106 XN GRADUATE 1.1: £6,995 (three-door only). Slightly disappointing French entry. Not as memorable as the 205. Top speed 102mph, 46.5mpg.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2i E Merit: £6,765 (three-door). Best looking of the bunch. Slick interior and economy engine. Impressive all-rounder. Top speed 90mph, 49.6mpg.

NISSAN MICRA 1.0L: £6,695. Former Car of the Year and looks you love or hate. Driveability outstanding. Top speed 93mph, 49.3mpg.

Detergent solution will wash

TESCO is the latest supermarket to put detergent additives in its petrol since the disclosure by *The Times* that ordinary fuel could clog engines. The biggest independent petrol retailer in the country with 174 filling stations, Tesco had resisted calls to fall into line with the big oil companies' use of detergents, which are claimed to keep engines free of damaging carbon deposits.

Tesco first said there was "no evidence that fuel without additives, which the company has been selling, caused damage to engines". However, Steve Ager, of Tesco, said this week: "We have been especially thorough in our research . . . Now we are happy to provide detergents free."

Jag edge

A SCHEME which means Jaguar owners could pay just £238 a month for a luxury saloon was announced this week. A similar repayment plan helped Jaguar in America. It combines low payments with three-year warranty and two-year's free servicing. For example, an XJ6 3.2 automatic, normally about £28,000 in showrooms, needs a 30 per cent deposit and £238 monthly. As with parent-company Ford's successful Options scheme, Jaguar will guarantee the residual value. At the end of the finance term, customers can buy the car at the guaranteed price.

Hot shot

THE Chrysler Viper GTS coupé is the car to frighten granny with. Chrysler confirmed it is to build the roaring sports car with more



muscles than Arnold Schwarzenegger. Its remarkable power, including 180mph top speed, and bulbous shape marks a return to old "muscle car" values. A team of 50 will spend $20 million (about £13 million) developing the tarmac burner for production over the next two years.

Euro-Caddy

THE BADGE says Cadillac but the input is European. For the new Cadillac LSE saloon that General Motors will sell in America in 1996, Vauxhall UK will provide V6 engines while Germany's Opel will make the underbody. The car is basically the Vauxhall Omega due here this year, which will be badged as an Opel in the rest of Europe.

With input from both sides of the Atlantic, the operation could be described as GM's first "world car". Jack Smith, GM's president, says British and German engineers could be called on again for other America-bound models.

Beetlemania

WOULD-BE buyers have already started phoning Volkswagen to order the next generation Beetle model, although it is still only a concept car. VW unveiled Concept 1 at the Detroit Motor Show, a Beetle derivative with round bumpers, a jazzy yellow colour and environmentally friendly engine but is undecided whether to manufacture it. Meanwhile, the phones have not stopped ringing at VW's UK headquarters at Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire.

Conversing traffic lights are talk of the towns

A British traffic-light system decides how long to show stop or go signals

Traffic lights that talk to each other could relieve the misery of congestion for drivers in Birmingham. The city has invested £8.5 million in a sophisticated British-made system which allows traffic lights to watch passing cars and decide how long to show stop or go signals.

Birmingham, long criticised as a city built for the car, has become increasingly tired of traffic clogging the main roads to the centre. Now city councillors have hired GEC-Marconi to install sophisticated "talking" traffic lights to keep cars, buses and lorries flowing smoothly at the busiest peak periods.

GEC-Marconi claims that journey times may be cut by 20 per cent, with 500,000 gallons of fuel saved, and that council tax payers will be saved £6 million a year.

Why then has Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique (Scoot) not been adopted throughout Britain? It has, says Phil Gallagher, of GEC, but so far only in piecemeal form.

He explains: "There are Scoot systems throughout Europe and America, and the Birmingham scheme is the world's biggest at present. Birmingham decided it wanted complete control over a city-wide area for best traffic flows to ease congestion."

The system covers 500 intersections on ten radial routes around the city but could eventually grow to 1,500 junctions. It is already attracting world attention. Keith Watkins, acting city engineer for Birmingham, has shown the fledgling Scoot to city fathers from Thailand and Pakistan.

His enthusiasm will have been communicated to the visitors — and for good financial reasons, if nothing else. Mr Watkins says the payback period for some highway schemes is as long as ten years: Scoot, with savings on traffic control and congestion, should pay for itself within 15 months.

If Scoot is a success, other British cities are bound to be interested. Scoot has turned a familiar piece of street furniture into a futuristic thinking machine.

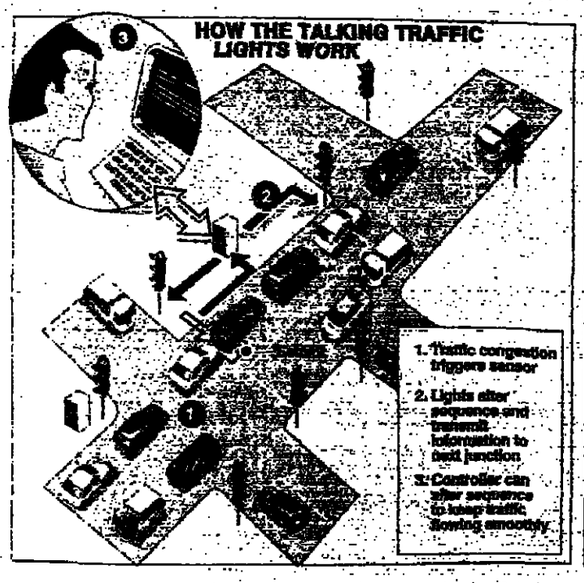
Standard traffic lights run to a timed sequence, so that red may be set to show for 20 seconds, green for 30 seconds and so on. Scoot equips the same traffic lights with sensors, either microwave "magic eyes" or wheel sensors buried in the road tarmac. They watch vehicles passing and register whether the numbers are reaching crisis point.

As traffic builds, the lights adjust themselves to allow the greater volume of vehicles to pass. Each junction tells the next set of lights what is happening so that the flow keeps moving steadily along. Experts at a central headquarters watch traffic flows on a computer-generated screen so they can intervene if they want to slow down or speed up vehicles entering the city.

The lights are even intelligent enough to remember and cope with special events. They will remember, for example, that there are more vehicles than usual travelling to the west of Birmingham every other Saturday afternoon when Aston Villa play at home.

Mr Gallagher adds: "The point of Scoot is that it is constantly watching what happens around it so that it copes with the day-to-day conditions. If something happens unexpectedly, the central controllers could make adjustments to suit the event. It is a smart system which could make a big impact on city traffic."

KEVIN EASON



MOTORING

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325iA COUPE 93K MAURITIUS 6K	£22,495
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190E H Nov '90 2.0 Auto sportline, ESR, EW, FSH, 1 owner, Alloys, Immaculate. 69K. £11,500. Weybridge (0932) 851583.

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944 Turbo SE, 250 BHP, Limited Edition, silver rose, 1988 E, 44,800 miles, FSH, incl cherished number, showroom condition. £10,460. Tel 0204 26186/596694 Bolton

944 TURBO 1992 Cabriolet dark blue metallic, 12,000 miles, as new condition, all extras. Private sale - no dealers please £25,000 ovno call 071 322 2319 Monday-Friday 9.30-5.30

944 Turbo, H reg, 27,000 miles, Baltic blue, linen leather, A/C, E/S/R, FSH, CD, telephone. £17,000. Tel: 0895 832828.

944 turbo, coupe, 91J, white, leather, a/con, 14,000 mls. £21,000 ono Tel 08394 32382.

968 coupe tiptronic, June 1993. White, grey leather. Air con. 3600 mls, plus extra's, immac. £35,960 Tel 0494 681265.

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111 FFC £2,500 0245 348500 (O) Miss Taylor.

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3 FRY On retention cert. £6,250 or reasonable offer Tel: 0258 840587

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J1 CDM £300 Tel: 071 379 4242

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MULSANNE S 90 Rhapsody Blue/Parchment, 39,000 mls, FSH £43,500
MULSANNE 86 dark oyster/ grey, alloy whls, superb cond, FSH £21,500
TURBO 83 Model, Black/Black, Alloys, WWT, FSH £18,500

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9000 CSE 2.3 Turbo, 93 K, Auto, Eucalyptus/Pamir, S/R, 11K. £22,950. 081 681 0183 T

SAAB

9000i 1990(G), low mls, excellent condition, e/win/mirr, fsh, Grundig stereo, £7750 ono. As new car insurance. 071 831 8504 0438 816051.

9000i 2.3 SE Turbo 1992 J Auto Grey Met, 32,000 mls, 1 owner, FSH, £14,995. 0564 783595 t

9000SE Turbo 16V 2.0, 88 E. 63k, met grey, auto, ABS a/c, ESR, lthr int, stereo, immac, 6 mths mech ins, FSSH, £5,000. 071 243 2998/229 4676

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92J 944 S2 Cpe Dychamm Met	17T	£21,995	90E 911 Cabriolet Dove	44T	£21,950
91J 944 S2 Cab Guards Red	24T	£24,995	90G 911 C2 G.P. White		£28,995
92J 968 Cab Midnight Blue	16T	£32,995	89G 911 G.P. White	22T	£27,950
93K 968 Coupe Tipt Cobalt Met	5T	£34,995	89G 911 C2 Cab Baltic Blu	32T	£30,950
93 968 Cab Guards Red	1T	£P.O.A	90H 911 C2 Velvet Red	35T	£32,950
90H 911 C2 Targa Guards Rd	36T	£32,995	91J 911 C2 Velvet Red	38T	£32,950
91J 911 C4 Targa Silver Met	21T	£35,995	92K 911 C2 Cab Amethyst	19T	£44,950
92K 911 C2 Cab Black	8T	£43,995	92K 911 C4 Guards Red	22T	£39,950
93 911 C2 Cpe Tip Amethyst Met	2T	£POA	91J 911 C4 Targa Glacier	18T	£32,950
91H 928 GT Guards Red	27T	£31,995	91J 911 C4 Targa Midnight	33T	£34,950
93K 928 GTS Oak Green Met	22T	£P.O.A	90G 911 C4 Cab Guards Red	34T	£33,950
			93L TWR Griffith 500	300 miles	£P.O.A

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THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Tory flagship council stunned

■ John Major's Government plunged deeper into the mire yesterday as an independent auditor accused the Conservative flagship authority of Westminster of a "disgraceful, unlawful and improper" £21 million vote-rigging scandal.

Dame Shirley Porter, the former council leader, five other councillors and four officials are accused of "wilful misconduct" in engaging in gerrymandering to lure Tory voters into eight marginal wards .... Pages 1, 7, 15

Back to basics a sick joke, Keays says

■ Sara Keays, the former lover of Lord Parkinson, yesterday added to Tory embarrassment over back to basics by dismissing the Prime Minister's campaign as a "sick joke". Her comments came as John Major was forced to clarify his strategy at a Cabinet meeting .... Pages 1, 14, 15

Island landslips

Severe landslips on the Isle of Wight, triggered by weeks of rain, have destroyed homes, closed roads and wiped out parts of the coastal path. Tens of thousands of tonnes of earth and rock are on the move .... Page 1

Yeltsin pledge

President Yeltsin assured President Clinton that he would not only continue but step up his programme of economic reform .... Pages 1, 10

Major defiance

John Major said that the Government will not bow to Sinn Fein demands for clarification of the Anglo-Irish declaration, as it emerged Dublin has agreed to to some of the concerns raised by the republican movement .... Page 2

'Perfect robbery'

Fake motorway cones and a traffic sign were used by a gang of thieves to steal up to £1.5 million from a security lorry in what police said was the "perfect robbery" .... Page 3

Cancer care risk

Women with breast cancer are receiving poor treatment and risk severe side-effects because doctors are failing to follow agreed guidelines .... Page 4

Retrial ordered

A woman and her lover jailed in 1991 for plotting to kill her husband by faking an accident with his ride-on lawn mower were freed by the Court of Appeal but must stand trial again ...... Page 5

Airbag concerns

Problems in America with car airbags were being studied in Britain and car makers were checking their safety fears that it could cause burns or inflate *accidentally* .... Page 8

Death sentence

The European Union has voiced strong concern to Iran at the impending execution of a 59-year-old Iranian who is accused of *renouncing Islam* and converting to Christianity after the age of maturity .... Page 9

Koresh 'executions'

Members of the Branch Davidian cult death followed David Koresh's "theology of death" and killed fellow cultists after the initial gun battle at Waco, according to federal prosecutors ...... Page 11

Help for voters

A team of American show business and sports personalities have arrived in Johannesburg to launch a programme aimed at teaching the black population about voting .... Page 9

Somalia peace hopes

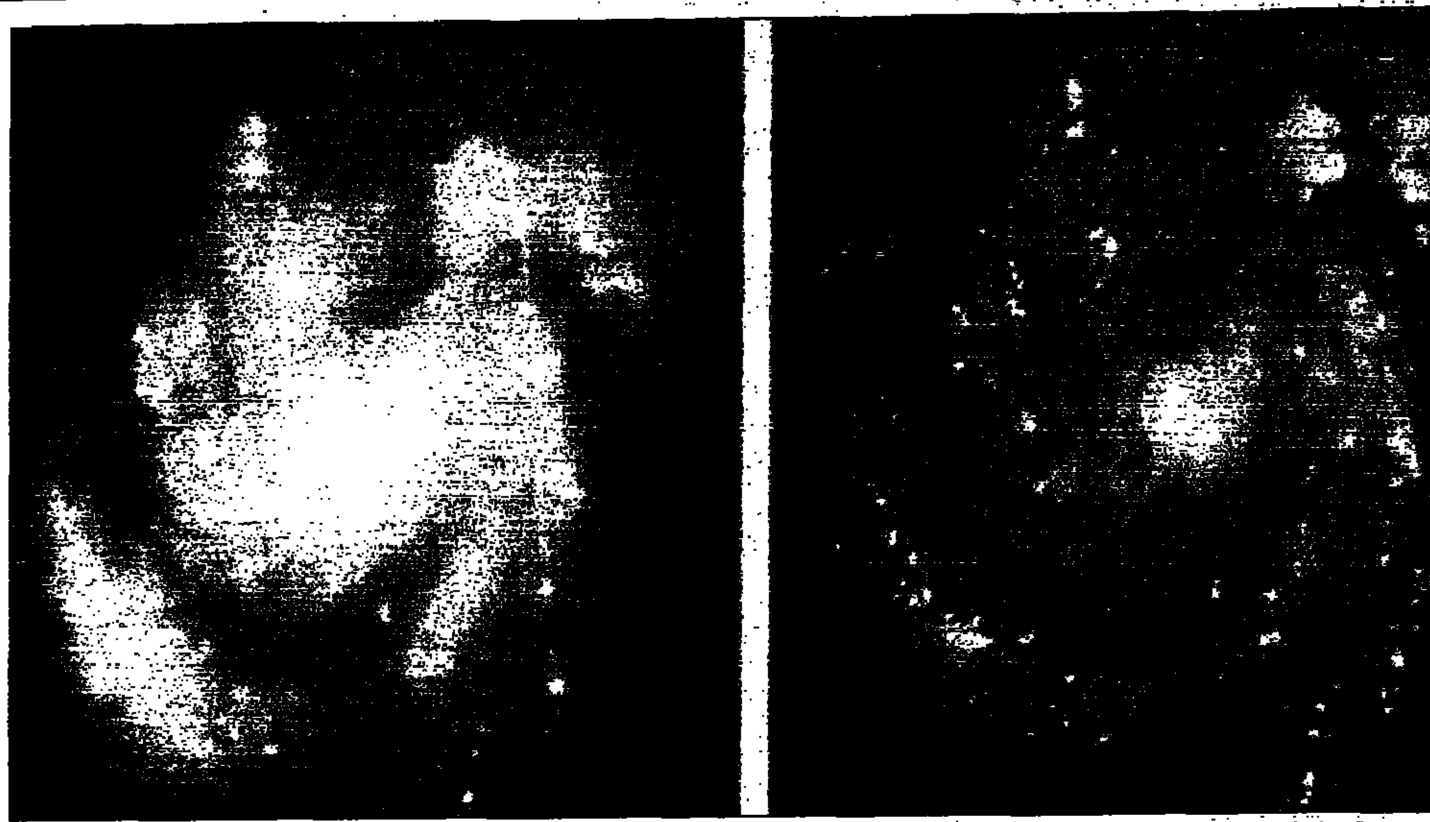
Mogadishu's traditional and religious leaders have held a fourth day of talks in what is seen as Somalia's last hope of avoiding renewed civil war .... Page 9

Focus on Mrs Clinton

The latest allegations in the Whitewater scandal are focusing increasingly on the role played by Hillary Clinton and her former law firm in Little Rock, Arkansas .... Page 11

China takes swing at golf courses

■ In a blow to some of the most glittering symbols of Deng Xiaoping's market-oriented China, the Communist Party has forbidden the construction of new golf courses and horse-racing tracks. The ban is an admission of the crisis in agriculture caused by peasants leaving the land for better pay, which has led to food shortages .... Page 9



Photographs released yesterday by Nasa showing the improvement in the Hubble space telescope after last month's repair mission by a shuttle crew. The view of the M100 galaxy on the left was taken on November 1, that on the right on December 31. Report, page 11

BUSINESS

Banking: TSB continued a bad week for banking jobs yesterday with news that 1,829 jobs were cut last year and another 1,000 could go this year. The bank has promised its branch staff that there will be no redundancies because of the closure of 110 branches ...... Page 23

Pits: Britain's coal industry has only a "very bleak" future, according to an analysis prepared for the privatisation Bill .... Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 12.0 points and closed at at 3360.0. Sterling's trade-weighted index remained unchanged at 82.9 after a fall from $1.5012 to $1.4955 but a rise from DM2.6071 to DM2.6197 .... Page 24

Skiing: Graham and Martin Bell, Britain's paupers among *princes* on the World Cup circuit, finished sixth and seventh on the second of three practice legs on the feared Hahnenkamm mountain in Kitzbühel .... Page 37

Golf: Jay Townsend, an American who plays the European tour from his home base in Florida, took the lead in the Madeira Island Open, the season's first event, with a round of 67 .... Page 37

Rugby union: Scottish officials shrugged off allegations that Craig Chalmers, who plays against Wales tomorrow, had breached guidelines on the use of pain-killing injections .... Page 40

The Reith challenge: Marina Warner *is to deliver the Reith* lectures — which puts her in the dilemma she most fears. The Valerie Grove interview .... Page 13

Libby Purves: "I saw a bit of prime voodoo yesterday, when by sheer serendipity the unthinkable almost happened" .... Page 13

Safety factor: Compact cars are financially attractive — but how safe are they? .... Page 18

Jobs and info: The world of information technology ..... Pages 29, 30

Born to provoke: Steven Berkoff, *the eternal enfant terrible* of British theatre, has teamed up with Joan Collins to film *Decadence*, his scabrous portrayal of debauchery in Belgravia .... Page 31

Brits and Brats: What have the Brits — the rock industry's official awards — learnt from their unofficial competitors, the Brats? Judging from the names that appear on this year's shortlist, younger artists will be in the spotlight from now on .... Page 33

Mancunian magic: Manchester's Year of Drama opened on Wednesday night with the inauguration of a new theatre, the Dancehouse .... Page 31

Adam Faith and Zoe Wanamaker return for a final series of *Love Hurts* (BBC1, 9.30pm), with a topical plot about an older couple having a baby .... Page 39

Home to roost

The grave allegations of gerrymandering and illegal expenditure, now levelled against Dame Shirley Porter and nine other Westminster councillors and officials by the district auditor, expose the Government once more to the charge that there is a great gulf fixed between Tory preaching and Tory practice .... Page 15

After the revolt

Mexican hardliners may be tempted to revert to old methods in a fit of post-Chiapas nerves. This would be a mistake .... Page 15

A bridge too far

It seems incredible that the construction of a bridge could lead to the fall of a government, especially in stolid Scandinavia .... Page 15

GORDON BROWN

When Labour left office, 34.75 per cent of national income was taken in tax. This year, tax will take 35.5 per cent. Never again can the Tories claim to be the low tax party .... Page 14

BERNARD LEVIN

Did you know that there now exist a Business Watch, a Shop Watch, a Church Watch (O ye of little faith!), a Farm Watch, a Country Watch, an Airport Watch and even a Horse Watch? .... Page 14

Causes and effects of air pollution .... Page 15

Boris Yeltsin is not a role model for policy wonks, the way Mikhail Gorbachev was. But his instincts are to go to the polls when in trouble. And often enough, he has sided with the reformers. He's the only train leaving the station

— *The Wall Street Journal*

There was no English Channel 15,000 years ago. Britain was a *promontory of Western Europe*. But ever since the sea sliced through, the British have seemed quite pleased to be an island. Reaching agreement to tunnel under the Channel was itself a miracle. And now, ever so routinely, there are tickets for sale

— *The New York Times*



Neelah Smith, whose jailing has intensified the debate resulting from the imprisonment of a fictional mother in *The Archers*
Page 5



Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, the Italian prime minister, who has offered his resignation and paved the way for a spring election
Page 10



Cardinal Basil Hume, who will preside today when the Duchess of Kent is received into the Roman Catholic Church
Page 8

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Catholic path to acceptance

■ Daniel Johnson looks at the slow but inexorable acceptance of Catholicism by the establishment, from Cardinal Newman to the Duchess of Kent

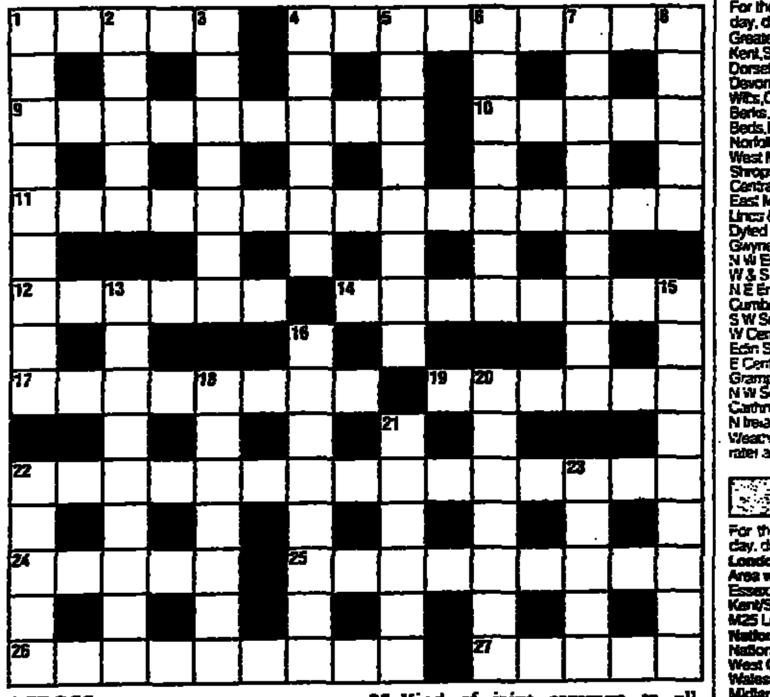
CD offer: Glenn Gould

■ This month's CD Direct choice is the eccentric keyboard genius Glenn Gould: four of his finest recordings are available at a specially reduced price

Battle of the bridal gift list

■ There's big money to be made out of "a little gift for the bride", Nicole Swengley says in Weekend, as *specialist companies seek to usurp the big stores*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,439



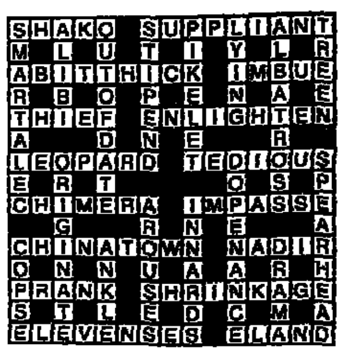
ACROSS

1 *Improvised speech, sadly mostly* ribald (2-3).
4 Excited clapper at Shavian play (5-4).
9 Take a firm line here and tread carefully (9).
10 Miss Hepburn ran it from A to B emotionally, said Miss Parker (5).
11 Maiden production of The Ensign's Opera (15).
12 Go ashore and silence the dog? (6).
14 Curling one's lip, like Pooh-Bah at birth (8).
17 Cunning fellow making surreptitious profits (8).
19 Piece about new number and name (6).
22 One whose clients are likely to be framed and go to the wall (8,7).
24 Cook showing energy (15).
25 Kind of joint common to all mankind (9).
26 Destroy nettles in hazards (9).
27 Dark river, extremely dirty to go across (5).

DOWN

1 Becoming a despot in Australasia (9).
2 Camp marching order about seniority (5).
3 Mannish queen is a murderer (7).
4 A little oregano in the salad oil (6).
5 Making toast is an undertaking (9).
6 Empress with English upper-class servant who appears by magic (7).
7 It's opening the door to advertising on religious activities (9).
8 Devon resort that shall be nameless — it's got gambling machines! (5).
13 Steady principal in musical comedy (3-6).
15 Friend starting to turn green in the main (9).
16 The stance for the approach (8).
18 Rebel as Roman galley slave (7).
20 Article is in demand — it is full of flavour (7).
21 Light studies for quantity surveyors in the licensing trade (6).
22 Adhesive is spread round top of stamp (5).
23 The ending of want demands job (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,438



Times Two Crossword, page 40

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Gloucs, Avon, Soms	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Minehead, Somerset, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Loch Glascarnoch, Highland, 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Tiree, Hebrides, 0.75in; highest sunshine: Tynemouth, Tyne and Wear, 3.5hr.

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From The Western Provident Association
FREECALL 0500 43 93 23

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a mixture of sunshine and showers, with E England having the best of the weather. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have sunny intervals and showers, scattered in the E but frequent and heavy in the W. Temperatures will be near average.
☐ **SE, E, Cent S and N England, E Midlands, East Anglia:** Sunny or clear spells, scattered showers. Wind SW, fresh. Max 9C (48F).
☐ **SW England, Wales, Channel Islands:** Sunny or clear intervals and showers. Mainly dry and cloudy later. Wind SW, fresh or strong, decreasing moderate. Max 9C (48F).
☐ **NE England, E Scotland from Borders to Moray Firth:** Sunny or clear intervals and showers. Wind W to SW, fresh or strong. Max 7C (45F).
☐ **W Midlands, NW England, Lakes:** Sunny or clear intervals and showers, some heavy. Wind SW, fresh or strong. Max 8c (46F).
☐ **Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, cent Highlands, Argyll, Northern Ireland:** Showers, some heavy. Clear intervals. Wind W to SW, fresh or strong: Max 7C (45F).
☐ **NW and NW Scotland, Orkney and Shetland:** Sunny or clear intervals and showers. Wind W, becoming NW, moderate or fresh. Max 6C (43F).
☐ **Outlook:** Showers and becoming colder everywhere.

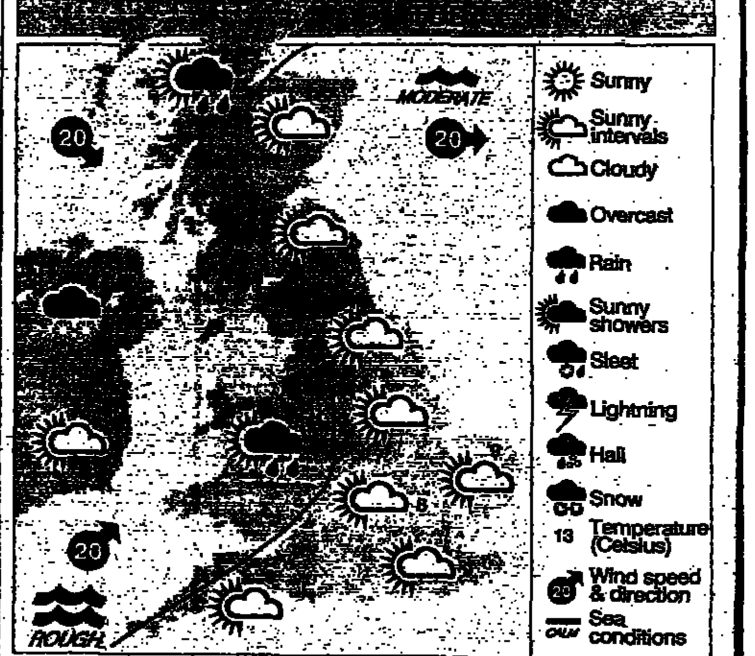
MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; d=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright. (X = not available)

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Aberdeen	7	45	r	Dubrovnik	X			Lowestoft	11	52	d	S F'risco	13	55	s
Ajaccio	13	55	s	Eastbourne	11	52	r	Luxembg	5	41	d	S Paulo	23	73	c
Akrotiri	18	64	f	Edinburgh	9	48	sh	Luxor	23	73	s	Salcombe	X		
Alex'dria	20	68	f	Eskdalemuir	X			Madrid	13	55	f	Salzburg	8	46	s
Algiers	17	63	c	Exmouth	12	54	r	Majorca	18	64	s	Sandown	12	54	r
Amst'dm	8	46	r	Falmouth	12	54	r	Malaga	18	64	s	Santiago	32	90	s
Anglesey	9	48	r	Faro	16	61	c	Malta	10	50	f	Saunton Snd	11	52	c
Aspatria	10	50	sh	Florence	14	57	s	Manchester	11	52	r	Scilly Isles	11	52	sh
Athens	14	57	r	Folkestone	12	54	r	Margate	12	54	r	Seoul	3	37	f
Aviemore	5	41	r	Frankfurt	7	45	c	Melb'rne	22	72	f	Shanklin	11	52	r
B Aires	29	84	f	Funchal	17	63	c	Mexico C	17	63	s	Skegness	X	X	r
Bahrain	21	70	s	Geneva	4	39	f	Miami	28	82	f	Southend	X		
Bangkok	32	90	f	Gibraltar	17	63	s	Milan	8	46	s	Southport	10	50	r
Barbados	28	82	c	Glasgow	9	48	r	Minehead	13	55	r	Southsea	12	54	r
Barcelona	15	59	s	Guernsey	13	55	r	Montreal	-15	5	f	St'kholm	1	34	d
Beirut	19	66	f	Hastings	11	52	r	Morecambe	10	50	r	Stornoway	6	43	c
Belfast	7	45	c	Hayling I.	X			Moscow	-10	14	sn	Strasb'rg	7	45	f
Belgrade	6	43	s	Helsinki	-5	23	sn	Munich	9	48	s	Swanage	12	54	sh
Berlin	6	43	c	Herne Bay	12	54	r	N Delhi	14	57	f	Sydney	28	82	s
Bermuda	X			Hong K	22	72	s	N York	-1	30	sn	Tangier	17	63	c
Biarritz	18	64	s	Hove	11	52	r	Nairobi	28	82	f	Teignmouth	13	55	r
Birmingham	11	52	r	Hunstanton	12	54	r	Naples	12	54	c	Tel Aviv	19	66	s
Blackpool	9	48	f	Innsbrck	7	45	s	Newcastle	11	52	r	Tenby	11	52	r
Bognor R	11	52	r	Inverness	3	37	r	Nice	13	55	s	Tenerife	20	68	f
Borde'x	16	61	f	Isle of Man	10	50	r	Norwich	12	54	r	Tiree	7	45	sl
Bournem'th	12	54	r	Istanbul	12	54	f	Nottingham	11	52	r	Tokyo	11	52	s
Bristol	13	55	r	Jeddah	29	84	s	Oslo	-3	27	sn	Toronto	-4	25	s
Brussels	9	48	r	Jersey	12	54	r	Paris	11	52	c	Torquay	12	54	r
Budapest	8	46	s	Jo'burg	21	70	f	Peking	6	43	s	Tunis	15	59	c
Buxton	9	48	r	Karachi	23	73	s	Penzance	12	54	r	Tynemouth	10	50	r
Cairo	21	70	f	Kirkwall	5	41	r	Perth	29	84	s	Valencia	20	68	s
Cape Tn	23	73	f	L Angels	18	64	s	Plymouth	11	52	r	Vanc'ver	9	48	d
Cardiff	11	52	r	L Palmas	20	68	s	Poole	12	54	d	Venice	13	55	s
Ch'church	18	64	s	Le Touqt	X			Prague	5	41	c	Ventnor	11	52	r
Chicago	0	32	d	Leeds	X			Reykjavik	4	39	f	Vienna	9	48	s
Clacton	9	48	r	Lerwick	5	41	sl	Rhodes	16	61	f	Warsaw	6	43	c
Cologne	8	46	f	Leuchars	8	46	sh	Rio de J	22	72	f	Wash'ton	2	36	r
Colwyn Bay	11	52	r	Lisbon	15	59	c	Riyadh	24	75	s	Well'gton	17	63	f
Corfu	12	54	f	Littlehmptn	11	52	r	Rome	15	59	s	West-s-mare	13	55	r
C'phagn	3	37	c	Liverpool	10	50	r	Ronaldsway	9	48	s	Weymouth	11	52	g
Cromer	11	52	r	Locarno	9	48	s	Ross-o-wye	12	54	r	Wick	6	43	r
Dublin	7	45	s	London	13	55	r	Ryde	X			Zurich	17	63	s

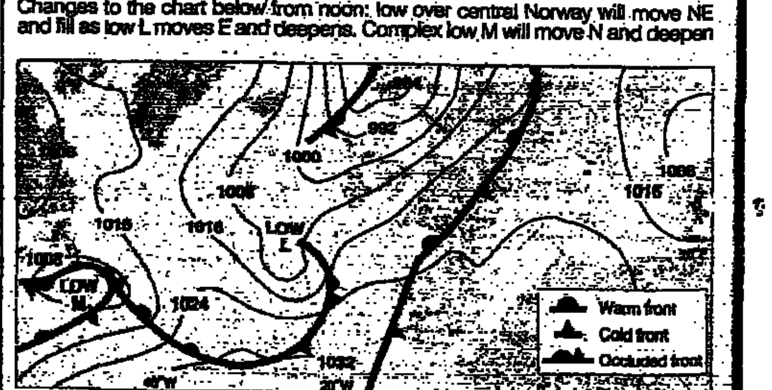
These are Wednesday's figures X = figures not available

Sun rises: 8.01 am
Sun sets: 4.19pm
Moon sets: 7.44 pm
Moon rises: 8.48 am
First quarter January 19

London 4.19 pm to 8.01 am
Bristol 4.29 pm to 8.10 am
Edinburgh 4.09 pm to 8.35 am
Manchester 4.18 pm to 8.16 am
Penzance 4.47 pm to 8.16 am



Changes to the chart below from noon: low over central Norway will move NE and fill as low L moves E and deepens. Complex low M will move N and deepen



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.08	7.11	3.34	7.31
Aberdeen	2.45	4.24	2.47	4.43
Avonmouth	8.41	13.39	9.01	13.06
Belfast	12.18	3.39	12.30	3.39
Cardiff	8.26	12.37	8.46	12.08
Devonport	7.12	5.80	7.38	5.20
Dover	12.11	6.68	12.32	6.48
Falmouth	6.42	5.30	7.08	5.00
Glasgow	2.17	4.70	2.28	5.20
Harwich	1.00	3.97	1.25	4.01
Holyhead	11.42	5.74	—	—
Hull	7.48	7.14	7.60	7.98
Ilfracombe	7.25	8.35	9.42	8.99
King's Lynn	7.56	6.40	7.55	6.80
Leith	4.00	5.50	4.12	5.58

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	12.27	9.20	12.42	9.55
Lowestoft	11.11	2.42	11.00	2.63
Margate	1.11	4.73	1.46	4.70
Milford Haven	7.39	7.14	7.57	6.81
Newquay	8.29	7.10	6.48	6.80
Oban	7.02	4.20	7.13	3.90
Penzance	6.12	5.60	6.37	5.30
Portland	8.06	2.20	8.27	1.90
Portsmouth	12.38	4.80	12.47	4.70
Shoreham	12.34	6.47	12.49	6.36
Southampton	12.10	4.57	12.16	4.45
Swansea	7.36	9.60	7.59	9.19
Tees	5.09	5.28	5.13	5.50
W'ton-on-Nze	12.51	4.16	1.18	4.19

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INFOTECH 29, 30

From sheep dips to pollution statistics: a database tells



ARTS 31-33

The critics have got it all wrong, says Steven Berkoff



SPORT 34-40

Bell brothers picking up speed for Britain

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Page 39

THE TIMES

FRIDAY JANUARY 14 1994

More jobs go at TSB as profit surges

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

■ The TSB is now a takeover predator rather than a bid target. It has had discussions with building societies that could add to its core retail business

A BAD week for banking jobs culminated yesterday in an announcement by TSB that it had cut more than 1,800 jobs in 1993 and that an additional 1,000 could go this year.

The bank has, however, promised that there will be no redundancies among branch staff as a result of its decision to close 110 of its 1,300 branches this year. The 500 staff employed at the branches affected are to be redeployed. TSB said a recruitment freeze would remain and jobs would be trimmed from head office and support functions.

In the past five years, TSB has cut its workforce by 22 per cent, to 27,570. Excluding staff in businesses sold, TSB cut 1,829 jobs last year; 1,700 of the staff involved were made redundant. This year, about 1,000 jobs could go through natural wastage, and the bank said that if it needed to trim numbers further, it could reduce the 1,500 employed in the past 18 months on fixed-term contracts.

The TSB cuts follow announcements by Barclays that a further 3,000 jobs will go before the end of next year and by National Westminster that 4,200 will be cut this year.

But TSB had good news for the City. Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman, unveiled a leap in pre-tax profits from £5 million to £301 million for 1993. Economic recovery led to a reduction in bad debt provisions, from £597 million to £343 million. But Sir Nicholas said that pressure on deposit margins, given low inflation and low interest rates, would not abate. The profit figures included a £70 million charge relating largely to redundancies.

The shares jumped by 15p, to 267p, in a falling market, thanks to the better than expected results and a 20 per cent increase in the dividend, from 6.4p to 7.68p.

TSB is strongly capitalised and Peter Ellwood, the chief executive, said it was in a strong position to make acquisitions. The bank had had dialogues with building societies, though "we have found them reluctant to join forces". TSB is keen to strengthen its branch network in the South and South West of England.

Mr Ellwood said TSB would continue to focus on retail banking and insurance. "Other businesses whilst less central, will be developed in order to create shareholder value," he said. Hill Samuel was not for sale. "The Hill Samuel businesses form an important part of TSB and we are investing in their development."

At the end of 1992, TSB split Hill Samuel into two, putting £1.8 billion of poor corporate loans into a loan administration unit. Mr Ellwood said running off these loans would probably take another five years. Hill Samuel now concentrates on traditional merchant banking activities such as corporate advisory services and treasury operations.

TSB's combined banking and insurance profits were up by 8 per cent, to £454 million. However, within that, retail banking profits fell by £30 million, to £260 million. Hill Samuel made profits of £96 million, up from £83 million.

The loan administration unit made a £142 million loss, down from £379 million in 1992. Mortgage Express, which is being run down, made a profit of £1 million, compared with a £67 million loss in 1992. Eight businesses were sold, including Bell Lawrie White, Noble Lowndes and Swan National. The sales generated proceeds of £174 million.

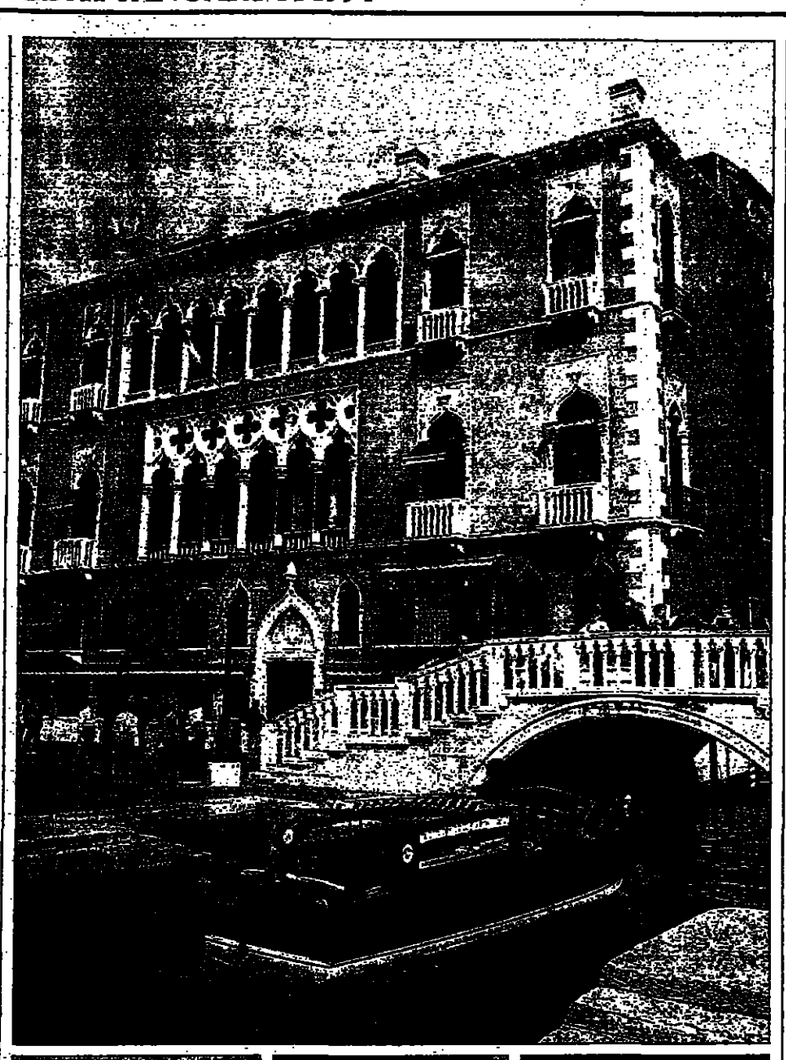
TSB plans to launch a round-the-clock, seven-day-a-week, telephone banking service in the autumn to improve distribution of services.

☐ Guardian Royal Exchange said 268 jobs had gone or were to go from its Lytham St Annes, Lancashire, administration centre and its Edinburgh pensions centre.

No jobs for life, page 22
Tempus, page 25



Sir Nicholas Goodison said recovery was benefiting TSB









Venice's Hotel Danieli, owned by Ciga. The group is attracting interest from a number of prospective buyers including George Soros, left, the Sultan of Brunei and Rocco Forte

Forte and Soros join forces to pursue Ciga

By Colin Campbell

ROCCO Forte, Britain's major hotelier, has joined forces with George Soros, the international currency and gold operator, in an effort to beat off international competitors and buy the Aga Khan-controlled Italian Ciga group of 36 luxury hotels.

Forte confirmed yesterday that it was in the final stages of tying up a financial package with Mr Soros, who runs America's multi-million dollar Quantum Fund, and said that it had completed a due dilligence study of the debt-ridden Ciga chain.

In November, Forte made a direct approach to Ciga's creditor banks, which are being advised by Mediobanca, the Milanese merchant bank, and announced that it had "a memorandum of understanding" regarding a bid for Ciga.

Forte's intention was to pay £33 million cash and inject certain of its own luxury hotels, valued at £125 million, into Ciga. But after interest by rival parties, which offered Ciga's creditor banks more cash up front, Forte's bidding plans had to be redrawn.

Forte then struck up negotiations with Mr Soros and the Quantum Fund. The partnership will shortly submit its formal offer, which could be worth between £300 million and £350 million to Ciga's creditor banks.

Debts of the hotels enterprise are estimated at L1,011 billion (£406 million). In the first half of 1993, the group reported losses of L110 billion.

Richard Power, Forte's communications director, said "Ciga would be a fantastic fit. But there is no such thing as a fantastic deal at the wrong price." He said there were plenty of hurdles yet to jump.

In December, the Sultan of Brunei reportedly "communicated his interest" in buying the Ciga hotel chain, but without mentioning a price.

Pennington, page 23

Bleak future for coal in UK

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BRITAIN'S coal industry has only a "very bleak" future, according to an official analysis on coal prepared for the Bill to privatise British Coal.

On Tuesday, the Government will bring the Coal Industry Bill back for its second reading. The timing coincides with British Coal moving towards a further round of pit closures; it is expected to announce half a dozen pit closures next month.

In advance of the presentation of the Bill, a background analysis takes a gloomy view of the coal industry's future. The analysis questions whether anything of the industry will survive the Government's privatisation.

Citing "pessimistic" studies viewing privatisation as "disastrous" for coal, and suggesting that there will be either no or very few coal mines left in Britain by the year 2000, it says: "No doubt there would be disagreement over the details of any such predictions, but the main points are not contested."

Stating that the dash for gas has happened and that gas-powered electricity-generating stations will soon be coming on stream, the analysis by Christopher Barclay, of the library's science and environment section, concludes: "Coal has no serious alternative markets so its future looks very bleak."

It says that this conclusion is entirely consistent with the reviews of coal carried out by the Government, the Commons' Trade and Industry Select Committee and by independent consultants.

The analysis says that the conclusions of the DTI's White Paper last year on coal's future were "depressing for the coal industry". It also confirms that "further cutbacks are widely considered likely for British Coal".

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS TODAY

LOUD GONG



The man with the gong rang up doubled profits for Rank Organisation last year and heralded a rosy picture for the current year
Page 23, Tempus 25

LOUD RING

Cellnet's subscribers rose from 68,000 to 103,000 in the past year and helped Securicor and Security Services
Page 24

LOUD COLOURS



Creatures of Delight are to join the Wombles of Wimbledon and Paddington Bear stable of Storm Group
Page 26

LOUD BOOM

Old-style Mercedes manufacture will be replaced by state-of-the-art plant as Alabama joins the boom
Page 25

Crown Life fined £130,000

By Sara McConnell, Personal Finance Correspondent

A LIFE office that employed a salesman, later imprisoned for running an illegal deposit-taking operation, was yesterday fined £130,000 plus £20,000 costs by its regulator.

Crown Life also admitted to the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (Lautro) that it had given two of its other sales representatives a copy of an examination paper set by the company before they took it.

The fine is the third largest imposed by Lautro and comes a week after the Life Association of Scotland was fined £145,000. The highest fine, of £160,000, was imposed on Intertife, which had persuaded nurses to transfer from occupational to personal pensions.

Crown was fined £50,000 for taking on Alan Joyner, a salesman, despite having received a coded warning in a reference from Mr Joyner's previous employer that he was unacceptable. Malcolm Berryman, managing director of Crown Financial Management, said it had failed to crack the code and had employed Mr Joyner for five months between May and October 1991. Mr Joyner was convicted of theft last May and was jailed for three years.

The company was fined £80,000 for "failing to organise and control its internal affairs". In one instance, two salesmen, about to take an internal examination, were shown the actual paper before the exam. Mr Berryman said: "The manager was going through the paper with them. It was the wrong thing to do".

Lautro also found evidence that Crown had taken on sales people without taking up references, had "churned investments" to generate more commission and had encouraged people to transfer funds from previous occupational pensions or existing schemes into personal pensions.

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6pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES
MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 23, SHARE PRICES PAGE 27

Bank staff learn the hard way that jobs are not for life



Gray: impact of technology

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BANKING used to be regarded as a job for life — safe, if a little boring. Now, bank employees are being forced to face up to the realities of recession. At the same time, increasing use of new technology and centralisation of back office procedures has led to swingeing job cuts in financial services.

The Banking, Insurance and Finance Union (Bifu) estimates that 100,000 jobs have gone in the past four years and that 2,000 bank branches and 1,000 building society branches have closed in the past five. Banks say many customers rarely go into a branch, their salaries are paid directly into their accounts and they withdraw cash from machines.

They believe telephone banking will continue that trend. Midland's Firstdirect telephone banking subsidiary has proved a great success. In the four years since it was set up, it has attracted 400,000 customers.

This week, Barclays said another 3,000 jobs would go and National Westminster announced 4,200 job cuts this year. Martin Gray, chief executive of NatWest's UK branch banking business, said banking was one of the last big industries to restructure. "One of the causes of this restructuring is that the use of technology to provide better customer service is now available to us."

Midland shed 4,000 jobs between June 1991 and December 1992, and now employs 45,000. Staff numbers at Lloyds peaked in 1989 at 57,176. By the middle of last year, 12,899 jobs had been cut, taking staffing levels in the UK to 44,277. The bank expects jobs to continue to decline.

NatWest employed 108,000 staff at the end of 1990 but staffing levels had fallen to 92,600 by the middle of last year. Since 1991, Barclays has shed 16,000 jobs, taking staffing levels down to 68,500, and is planning 505 compulsory redundancies from branches in London and the South East next month. That leaves 4,500 still to go to reach its target.

TSB said it had cut 1,800 jobs last year; this year, the number would not be as large but could still be about 1,000. Peter Ellwood, TSB's chief executive, said the bank was able to avoid redundancies from branches this year, as staff turnover was running at 8 per cent.

A worrying trend from the union's point of view is the increasing use of temporary or contract staff. Over the past 18 months, TSB has frozen recruitment of full-time staff, instead employing 1,500 people on fixed-term contracts.

TSB has the option of not renewing the contracts "If we need to shrink the business", Mr Ellwood said. The contracts are for a minimum of three months and a maximum of one year. Contract staff do not have the same pension, maternity and other rights as full-time employees.

Like other industries, banks are being forced to cut costs and, in an age of growing competition, to modernise their businesses. They are increasingly competing for customers with building societies and insurance companies. Leif Mills, Bifu's general secretary, said bank staff now had "total job insecurity". He added that job emphasis had also changed. "We have increasing complaints from customers about the level of service, many of which are justified ... Our members are bearing the brunt of the complaints. They are the interface with the customer, but it is not their fault."

He said the impact of new technology and centralisation of processing jobs such as cheque handling should be to help branch staff to do their jobs better. "The UK is still very much a cash economy ... There is more than enough room for a full banking system."

BT to join talks on portable numbers

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TELEPHONE companies are to begin detailed talks on the introduction of portable phone numbers — personal numbers that can be used with any service supplier — after an examination of number portability by Oftel, the telecommunications regulator.

Oftel is also to begin work on new directions to be applied to BT that will require the company, under the terms of its licence, to introduce phone portability.

Don Cruickshank, director-general of telecommunications, said yesterday that an Oftel analysis had convinced him there was a very strong and robust case for the introduction of number portability.

Allowing customers to keep their own personal telephone numbers if they changed operator, would give customers freedom of choice to select their supplier on the basis of price and quality.

Mr Cruickshank said that the lack of portability had acted as a disincentive to changing supplier and that if the barrier were removed, suppliers would improve their services to attract customers and improve efficiency. The number of misdialled calls would also be reduced.

He said that Oftel would facilitate negotiations on portability, and would now start to draw up a timetable for talks and the implementation of the idea.

A study of utility regulation, carried out for the Centre for the Study of Regulated Industries, says there is a case for a clearer appeals system against regulators' decisions.

Berisford raises cash for £56m takeover deal with Magnet

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

BERISFORD International, the formerly beleaguered commodities group, is buying Magnet, the kitchen to bedrooms manufacturer and retailer, for £56 million funded by a one-for-two rights issue at 120p per share.

The company's shares were suspended at 128p pending shareholder approval of the deal, which has been eagerly expected since December when Alan Bowkett, chief executive, said Berisford was on the verge of an acquisition.

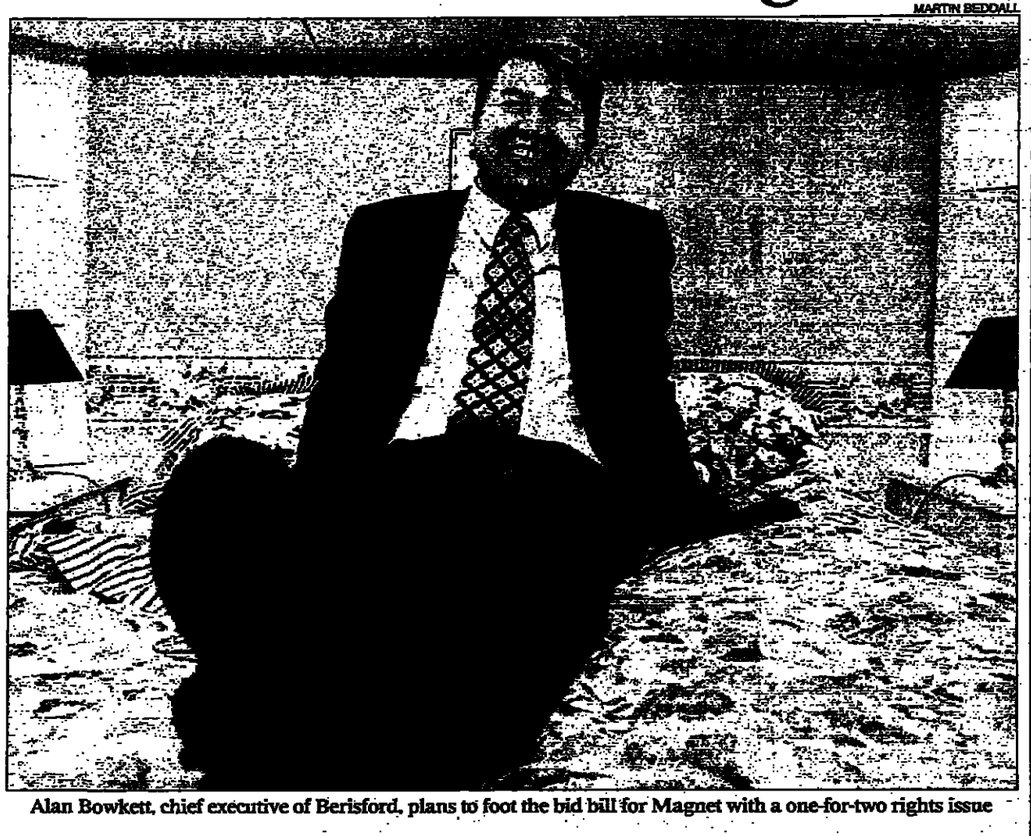
Yesterday's development marks the end of Berisford's search for an acquisition to form a new core business. The group failed narrowly to take over C&J Clark, the Somerset shoemaker, last May.

In the past three years, Mr Bowkett has brought back the one time debt-laden group from the brink of financial collapse through rationalisation and disposals of its traditional businesses, including the £880 million sale of British Sugar in 1990. The deal also closes a difficult chapter for Magnet after an unsuccessful £629 million management buyout in 1989. After three years of heavy losses, Magnet virtually broke even in the six months to September 25 on sales of £90.5 million.

Mr Bowkett, who has had experience of Magnet's markets during his time at Boulton & Paul, believes there is considerable scope for improving Magnet's profitability through rationalisation of production, distribution and more efficient sourcing.

He anticipates an upturn in Magnet's £1.5 billion market as the housing sector starts to recover. Analysts welcomed the deal, saying Berisford was buying a company at the bottom of a cycle at a significant discount to assets.

MARTIN BEDDALL



Alan Bowkett, chief executive of Berisford, plans to foot the bid bill for Magnet with a one-for-two rights issue

Magnet had net assets of £138 million and net cash of £30 million. Berisford said the acquisition would enable it to pay a dividend in the current year for the first time since 1989, despite difficult conditions in its markets.

Mr Bowkett said Berisford would invest "several millions of pounds" in Magnet, which had been deprived of adequate levels of investment following the highly leveraged buyout. He added that any investment should show healthy returns given that Magnet was only just breaking even, whereas its main manufacturing competitors, such as John Carr, a subsidiary of Rugby Group, were achieving margins of 12 per cent, and fitted furniture retailers, such as MFI, made about 10 per cent.

He said that the programme of rationalisation of Berisford's existing non-core businesses would continue, adding that a further £10 million of cash had been generated by a number of disposals since the year-end. In the year to September 30, Berisford made pre-tax losses of £5 million, compared with £65 million last time.

Pennington, page 23

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Fewer companies go into receivership

THE number of companies going into receivership fell in the final three months of last year and also declined in 1993 as a whole, according to figures from KPMG Peat Marwick. The decline in 1993 comes after four consecutive years when the number of receiverships increased. In the final quarter of last year, there were 571 receiverships compared with 720 in the previous quarter. In the year as a whole, a total of 2,845 was recorded, down 34.3 per cent on 1992.

Tim Hayward, KPMG's head of corporate recovery, gave warning that consumer confidence remained the key to economic growth. He added that the continuing economic weakness in continental Europe was worrying for Britain's exports. The 1993 figures show that manufacturing, construction, finance and business services accounted for 60 per cent of all receiverships. The South East was worst-hit, accounting for more than half in the final quarter. KPMG attributed this to the large number of service company collapses.

Leisuretime float hope

LEISURETIME INNS, the pubs group traded on the Stock Exchange's Rule 535 market, could be headed for a flotation on the USM after the recent purchase of a 29.9 per cent stake by Harmony Property and Barry Cox, former Hard Rock Café proprietor. John Main, Harmony chairman, said that the consortium had "a number of interesting ideas for Leisuretime Inns" including a possible cash injection. Harmony, which owns pubs in the South East and two hotels, is transforming itself into a property group following two property company acquisitions. It cut its losses in the year to March 1993 from £3.7 million to £2.1 million.

Norwich Union action

A ROW between Tarmac and Norwich Union over The Galleries shopping centre in Bristol escalated yesterday when Norwich Union said it had begun High Court proceedings against the construction company and its subsidiary, Schal International, claiming a substantial sum in damages. Schal is already claiming £2.6 million from Norwich Union in unpaid fees for its role in managing the project. The parties had been in talks since 1991 when Schal was removed from the project by the insurance company. Tarmac said that it had not yet studied the claims but was satisfied it had no material liability.

Pound's strength grows

STERLING continued to strengthen against the mark yesterday, gaining another pfennig, but the rise came mostly from the German currency's weakness against the dollar. The pound ended at DM2.6197, compared with Wednesday's close at DM2.6071, but slid against the dollar which closed at $1.4955 to the pound, compared with $1.5012 previously. The pound's trade-weighted index closed unchanged at 82.9. Hopes of an interest rate cut in the near future are now receding, largely because of sterling's recent strength. In addition, signs of recovery are dampening the perceived need for a base rate cut.

US pensions enquiry

NEW YORK insurance regulators are conducting an investigation into the illegal sale of pension and retirement savings plans by the Prudential Company of America, the country's largest insurer. The enquiry, by the New York State Insurance Department, was launched after the Prudential handed it the results of an internal enquiry that it conducted last year and discovered it had been selling some insurance plans to companies for their employees without the department's prior approval. The Prudential has said no contributions from individuals were at risk and contract holders would be fully compensated.

New Campari warning

CAMPARI, the ski-wear to leisure group, has issued another profits warning. It told shareholders that difficult trading conditions had not let up and a pre-tax loss of £7.75 million for the year to December 31 was expected to be announced in March. This compares with a pre-tax profit of £1.1 million in 1992. In October, Campari's shares tumbled 49p to 93p on the news of a first-half loss of £3.1 million, compared with a profit of £1 million last time. Since then, the shares have sunk a further 40p to 53p, reflecting the company's warning that it did not expect to return to profitable trading until the second half of this year.

Poundstretcher losses

DISAPPOINTING pre-Christmas sales prompted Brown & Jackson, the discount retailer trading under the Poundstretcher name, to issue a warning that 1993 losses would be more than the £4 million expected by the City. Sales were 6.4 per cent higher than in 1992 but those in the 13 weeks to December 24 showed like-for-like growth of only 2.7 per cent. The group said it expected a pick-up this year as a result of improvements in Poundstretcher's operating and trading methods, imminent completion of a new buying and merchandising system, a new store opening programme and rationalisation of existing stores.

French resist MG rescue

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

URGENT negotiations continued last night between MetallGesellschaft (MG), the metal and engineering group threatening to become Germany's biggest postwar corporate failure, and its creditor banks. Crédit Lyonnais and Société Générale, of France, continued to resist a DM3.2 billion rescue plan.

Barclays Bank, the main British creditor, has indicated its support for the scheme, and it seemed last night that the main German resistance to the refinancing package, which had come from Norddeutsche Landesbank (NordLB) had been overcome.

Deutsche Bank, MG's main creditor, which has headed the committee of more than 100 creditor banks involved, has made clear to the other institutions that "everyone is in the same boat", and that a single rejection by a large creditor could be enough to force MG into insolvency.

The Foreign Bankers Association in Germany, chaired by a representative of J P Morgan, the US investment bank, has called for the setting-up of an independent agency to test German companies' finances, following the MG debacle. MG last week increased its 1993 loss by DM1.5 billion, and disclosed a further DM1.5 billion of potential losses on oil futures deals. MG does not expect to announce the final position until the weekend at the earliest.



Metallgesellschaft shares remained suspended yesterday

Approval for Direct Line deal

BY OUR CITY STAFF

THE new deal between Peter Wood, founder of the Direct Line Insurance Company, and the Royal Bank of Scotland Group won shareholders' unanimous approval at the RBSG annual general meeting yesterday.

It took three minutes to back the board and Goldman Sachs, the financial advisors. Lord Younger of Prestwick, group chairman, said that Direct Line had produced excellent results and value for shareholders.

He said the board had decided to change the arrangements with Mr Wood because the issue of his bonus payments obscured the current and future profitability of Direct Line.

Mr Wood received a £1.6 million bonus in 1991; £6 million in 1992; and £18.2 million for 1993. The new deal ends the bonus agreement. Mr Wood receives a direct payment of £13 million, £4 million bonus for the current financial year and an annual salary of £350,000. Direct Line is also making a direct £7 million payment into Mr Wood's pension scheme. He has increased his Royal Bank Group shareholding to £20 million.

Cleaner electricity means price rises says generator

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

NATIONAL Power, the electricity generator, warned that its prices might have to rise to meet the cost of cleaner power. Though the generator gave no indication of the likely price increase it was considering, it made clear that all power generators would have to earn sufficient revenue to meet the cost of producing environmentally acceptable electricity from stations using fossil fuel.

Britain's bill for cleaner electricity to meet new standards imposed both by the UK government and by Europe could total more than £8 billion by the end of the century, National Power said.

The generating companies had already committed about £5 billion to projects that would produce 130 billion units per year of "clean" electricity — equivalent to a half of present consumption.

Roger Witcomb, National Power's UK director of business planning, said that so far these "massive" environmental investments had not fed through into electricity prices, because the company had been able to offset them by efficiency improvements and lower fuel prices.

However, speaking at a ceremony to mark the first phase of a £680 million sulphur removal plant at Drax power station, in North Yorkshire, he said: "To meet the substantial further expenditure that environmental improvement entails, National Power — and other generators — must be able to generate sufficient improvements to pay for it."

National Power said that the cost of generating electricity from environmentally friendly combined-cycle gas turbines was about 2.7p per kilowatt hour; the cost of producing electricity from the older plants they replaced was about 2.1p/KWh. The difference of 0.6p/KWh was the additional cost of producing clean electricity from combined-cycle gas turbines.

When fully operational in 1996, the Drax plant, the world's largest integrated flue gas desulphurisation installation, will remove 90 per cent of the station's sulphur dioxide emissions, or about 250,000 tonnes every year.

☐ Gas oil prices soared on rumours of a large buyer in the market. On the International Petroleum Exchange, in London, gas oil rose by $2.25 a tonne to $145.50 for the February contract. North Sea Brent oil rose 3 cents to $13.55 a barrel for February oil. Activity concentrated on the March contract.

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Gold bug likely to grip investors again this year

BY COLIN CAMPBELL
MINING CORRESPONDENT

THERE was an investment stampede into gold last year, and early indications are that sentiment about the metal will be sustained in 1994, according to an updated report from Gold Fields Mineral Services, publisher of the annual *Gold* survey.

Preliminary figures for global demand suggest that 119 tonnes of gold were bought for investment purposes last year, compared with only 14 tonnes in 1992, and that demand was especially strong in North America and parts of Europe.

GFMS says the investment in gold seen in the past year could be reversed. But because inflation is perceived as being close to a cyclical low, sentiment is likely to remain positive.

The gold market does not appear unduly concerned about overhanging official-sector supplies. In fact, the ability of gold consumers and investors to absorb substantial quantities of official-sector gold over the past two years "suggests a rather robust market".

Total fabrication demand in 1993 is estimated to have eased from 3,120 tonnes to 2,950 tonnes, of which jewellery accounted for 2,493 tonnes compared with 2,675 in 1992. Dr Stewart Murray, GFMS's chief executive, says that, in comparison with flat trading in 1992, and the overheated state of the gold market in the second quarter of 1993, the current market appeared to be returning to normality.

"Signs of this include the recovery of physical demand, price volatility and broadly based investment demand." The survey notes the reappearance of significant private demand in Germany, gold investment by US funds, and the return of Swiss portfolio investment to gold.

The driving forces behind the investment and speculative buying of gold last year included declining interest rates, which in turn encouraged massive transfer of funds into bond and equity markets. As markets rose, uncertainty increased, prompting precautionary gold purchases. The next *Gold* survey is due in May.

☐ Bank enquiries miss trees for the wood ☐ Quantum leap may win hotel battle ☐ Salvaged relics look to better future

Bankers are innocent, OK

☐ WOULD-BE moral prosecutors of Britain's banks seem to have an even less successful record than the Serious Fraud Office. Enquiries into their behaviour towards small business have piled almost as high as the complaints delivered to anyone who will listen. Yet the answers are always the same. All the myriad individual anecdotes and the many fewer documented cases of disgraceful bank behaviour do not build into a picture of systematic fault beyond insensitivity or bad communications.

The Bank of England's deliberations, due to surface on Monday, seem unlikely to change that much. The basic problem is that banks' actions are self-fulfilling. If they call in overdrafts and the borrower goes bust, they can hardly be accused of pulling the rug on a sound business. After all, they have huge bad debts and provisions to show in their defence. Likewise, if small businesses find themselves paying a much higher margin over base rate than they used to, that does not mean banks are exploiting them to recoup profits by not passing on interest rate cuts. Those huge loan losses can be produced in aid again, showing any fair-minded investigator that lending risks are much higher than the banks previously allowed for. The same circular argument has long applied to the "lending gap" so many high-powered magnifying glasses have failed to find. If banks have plenty of lending capacity — as they do today — they must only refuse to lend because the prospect is uneconomic. Some better regarded banks are more willing to take lending risks but also faster to pull the plug to contain them.

The logic is, as ever, impeccable. Unfortunately, it does not make much sense on the ground. There, the overwhelming impression is of widespread incompetence, of lending being switched from one fashionable sector to another, resulting in a series of disasters from third-world debt to house mortgages. And it is hard to divorce this process from the decline of proper bank managers, who once bestrode the local business world but are becoming an endangered species.

Among small businesses, long experience in different countries suggests that start-ups are always likely to have a high failure rate. Do banks take enough account of this, use individual judgment and differentiate enough between new and established customers? Should they not be prepared to appear more fuddyduddy for the sake of shareholders and customers and lend working capital only to finance saleable items such as stock? Is debt collecting a better service than lending? If the time horizon is longer, or the capital required permanent, banks should admit this to themselves by supplying long-term loans, when possible at fixed rates, and tailor sources of funds to lending business rather than the other way round. Some banks are now making the right noises. Their future actions will speak louder.

Forte Ciga and even the Sultan

☐ FORTE'S proposed association with Ciga, the luxury Italian hotel combine controlled by the Aga Khan, was never going to be an easy deal to clinch, as *Pennington* argued last month. News that Rocco Forte has chosen to forge an alliance with George Soros's Quantum Fund, to further his Ciga quest,



is the inevitable stuff of today's headlines. Discovering the underlying stuff, which has led to such an alliance, is more problematic. Milan and fog have long been synonomous.

Shortly before Christmas, Forte is understood to have informed Mediobanca, the Milan-based merchant bank that is attempting to restructure the heavily indebted Ciga chain, that it had enlisted the support of "an institutional shareholder". Forte's original proposal involved the injection of £33 million cash along with a quartet of luxury hotels valued at £125 million. Speculation in Italy has it that Forte significantly raised the cash content of its offer — speculation that Forte denies. Whatever polishing, if any, of the terms, Forte was perceived to be under pressure as a result of proposals put forward by the Maryland-based Host Marriott chain. Surprising, because, in mid-December, Host Marriott said it had suspended negotiations because it had received insufficient information. Italian banking circles argue that Host Marriott has set aside $151 million in shares towards the purchase and, even now, is still interested.

Just to confuse matters further, the Sultan of Brunei, who has long shown a penchant for hotels, including the Dorchester in London, communicated an interest in Ciga — an interest which, in the words of a Milanese banker "is still only generic".

Come the New Year and Colony Capital, a Los Angeles based investment company that specialises in the restructure of ailing property and hotel operations (a growth business if ever there was one) is said to have descended on Milan. The attraction: Ciga. The sum mentioned: $550 million. By this stage, Hyatt Hotels had decided to pull out. The not unfamiliar reason: insufficient data.

As hoteliers swarmed Milan, Forte, presumably with the backing of Soros, revised its terms earlier this week. Ciga's creditor banks are, by all accounts, now guaranteed some £350 million. And, amid all this, the Aga Khan is attempting to restructure Fimpar Holdings, Ciga's parent. With Quantum's muscle and the unique benefit of due diligence, Forte should just make it.

When one is much better than two

☐ A PHOENIX in the hand is worth two in the bush. That is the logic of splicing Berisford International and the Magnet joinery business. Both were classic victims of 1980s folly that have clung to life. Berisford was one of many to regret a profitable little property sideline, which left it with $650 million of American tax losses that formed a powerful incentive for resuscitation. Magnet followed an even more heavily trodden road to disaster: the highly geared buyout leaving no fat to survive the long slump.

Berisford survived because it had one huge solid asset, British Sugar, which could be sold, along with many another smaller business in a continuing line. Under its surgical chairman John Sclater, a man with a strong nerve and some vision, it became effectively a clean balance sheet with no business. Magnet's parent, even after restructurings, was insolvent but had a decent business. Its survival is more surprising, and owes much to banks, led by Bankers Trust, which have lost about £600 million — written off long ago — and must have been sorely tempted to close loss-making Magnet during the long period when recovery was not even on the horizon.

These twin salvage jobs should create a company with a future, after Berisford's rebuff by members of the Clark shoe family. The group's new management happens to know the joinery business well. For shareholders, the disappointment is to be asked to finance the £56 million purchase with a rights issue, since neither company has net debt and Magnet has book assets of £138 million including £30 million cash. But one reason Magnet is being sold now is such businesses need investment to make the most of recovery.

Rank exceeds hopes with doubled profits

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

RANK Organisation, Britain's biggest leisure group, more than doubled profits last year, defying even the most optimistic expectations, and painted a rosy picture for 1994.

Pre-tax profits for the group, chaired by Sir Leslie Fletcher, rose from £125.8 million to £276.6 million for the year to October 31, leading analysts to upgrade this year's forecasts by £10 million to more than £330 million, excluding exceptionals.

Michael Gifford, Rank's chief executive, said the strong growth in profits was due more to tight cost control and benefits from capital investment than any significant uplift in its markets. After payment of a special 31p interim dividend in September, there is no final payout.

The contribution from Rank Xerox, its photocopier associate, increased by 10 per cent to £151.2 million (£137.3 million). However, Rank Xerox will have to pay an estimated quarter of Xerox Corporation's $700 million restructuring charge next year.

Operating profit in the film and television division rose 62 per cent to £35.7 million (£22.0 million) due mainly to higher volumes and more efficiency in the film laboratories side.

The holidays division lifted profits 20 per cent to £51.0 million (£42.5 million). Gains at Butlin's and Haven Warner were partly offset by slower progress at Shearings, which depends on older customers, hit by lower rates on savings.

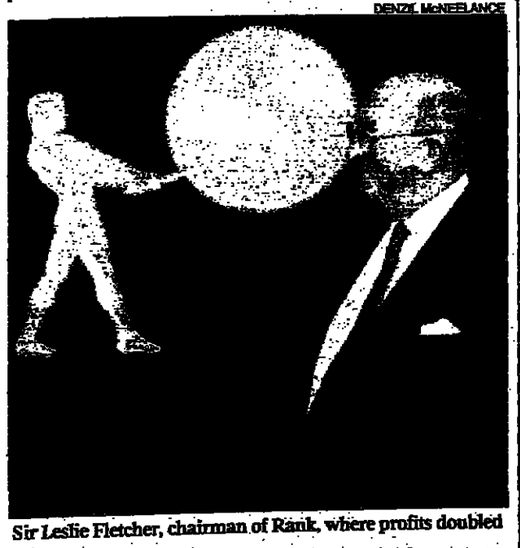
The recreation businesses lifted profits from £57.3 million to £63.0 million buoyed by higher spend per head at the bingo clubs and a revitalised casino market. Leisure profits, boosted by a turnround in US resorts and new openings of the Hard Rock restaurant chain, rose from £33.6 million to £50.4 million.

Mr Gifford said this year had got off to a reasonable start, and forecast higher leisure spending in 1994. His upbeat prediction contrasted with the more cautious view taken by First Leisure, the bingo to bowling group, earlier in the week.

The shares rose 20p to £10.01p, bolstered by news of a scrip issue of two and a half shares for every one held.

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DENZIL McNEELANCE



Sir Leslie Fletcher, chairman of Rank, where profits doubled

Chief claimed Attock owed BCCI millions

BY OUR CITY STAFF

A BUSINESSMAN helped deceive the auditor of BCCI, the collapsed bank, in a $90 million fraud shortly before it went under owing at least $2 billion, a court heard yesterday.

Mohammed Baqi, 68, allegedly signed numerous letters falsely claiming Attock Oil, his company, owed the bank millions of pounds so that the Bank of Credit and Commerce International could present a "glowing picture of health" to Price Waterhouse, its auditor.

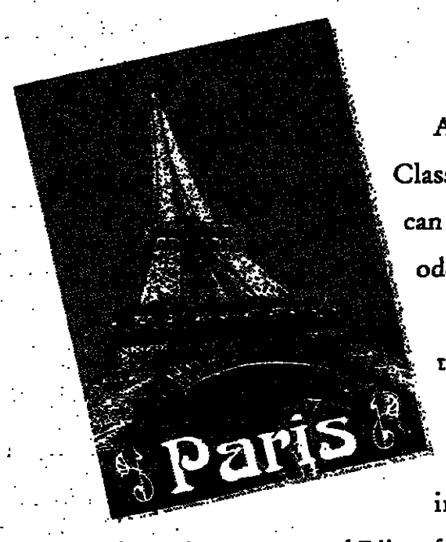
Mr Baqi, of Pinner, Middlesex, faces eight counts of conspiracy to furnish false information and eight counts of furnishing false information between September 1, 1986, and April 30, 1990. When the bank went under on June 5, 1991, it was the biggest banking collapse in history.

Prosecutor Brian Barker, QC, told the Old Bailey Mr Baqi "was the face of Attock Oil" — a major client of BCCI.

He told the jury: "What we are investigating is a narrow but serious allegation of dishonesty. It's a two-sided piece of dishonesty. There has been dishonesty on the bank's side and dishonesty on the defendant's — Mr Baqi's — side."

Mr Baqi denies all 16 counts against him. The trial continues today.

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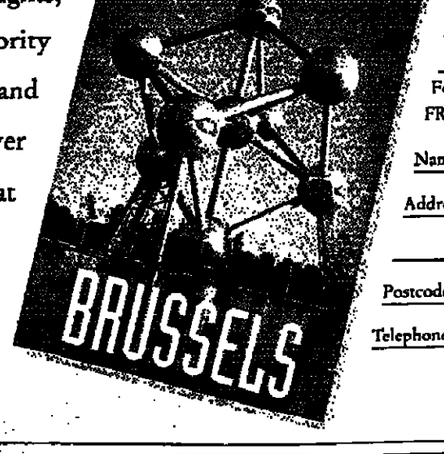
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Shares fall back for fourth day running

STOCK MARKET

THERE was strong evidence of fund switching in the London market, with investment managers appearing to return to high-yielding sectors as the improving prospect for economic recovery saw hopes for another cut in domestic interest rates recede.

Second-line shares bucked the trend, enjoying healthy gains as the FT-SE Mid 250 added 17.5 points to end at 3,882.1. In contrast, leading shares slipped back and a futures-driven FT-SE 100 index gave up ground for the fourth successive day, ending 12 points lower at 3,360.0.

Volume, boosted by good two-way trade and end-account profit-taking, reached 899.1 million shares. Traders said the cash market wanted to "tread water", but dull futures pulled cash stocks down.

The banking sector was in the spotlight after results from **TSB Group**, which were better than expected. TSB shares raced to 273p, before closing at 267p, up 15p, on volume of 27 million shares.

Elsewhere in the sector, **Abbey National** advanced 21p to 507p, boosted by encouraging figures from its Scottish Mutual offshoot, while **Lloyds** firmed 3p to 627p, helped by strong figures from Lloyds Abbey Life. But a 536-point overnight fall in Hong Kong knocked those exposed to the colony, with **HSBC** down 9p to 895p and **Standard Chartered** off 7p to £11.54.

The was evidence of fund managers seeking income from relatively high-yielding utilities, although gains were trimmed at the close. Among brighter electricity companies, **East Midlands** rose 8p to 634p, **Manweb** 8p to 739p, **Midlands** 5p to 685p, **Norweb** 8p to 718p, **Seeboard** 7p to 720p and **South West** 8p to 655p. Among the water winners, **Anglian** added 7p to 566p, **North West** 10p to 570p, **South West** 8p to 637p, and **Welsh** 18p to 696p.

Reuters rose 28p to £18.53 after an agreement in principle to acquire Quotron, the American data and news services business, from Citicorp, and a buy recommendation from Henderson Crosthwaite.

Pharmaceuticals were active, dominated by a combination of currency worries, Wall Street's malaise and news on drugs. **SmithKline Beecham**, which launched Famvir, its anti-herpes drug, saw its A shares add 6p to 407p, but **Wellcome**, which dominates that market with Zovirax, lost 24p to 650p after profit-taking and reports that the *Lancet* was preparing to publish the results of last year's adverse findings of the Concorde research programme into the early use of Retrovir.

Zeneca, which is moving into China, lost 18p to 825p after profit-taking and reports of brokers switching to SmithKline. **Medeva**, boosted by a positive ruling from the US Food & Drug Administration, jumped 14½p to 157p.

Investors' appetites also returned for some of the food manufacturers, partly on yield grounds. **Hillsdown** added 10p to 184p, **Acatos & Hutcheson** 19p to 367p, **Northern Foods** 10p to 252p, and **Tate & Lyle** 17½p to 446½p. Food retailers were mixed, but **Kwik Save** rose 9p to 617p, **J Sainsbury** 9p to 466p, **Tesco** 3p to 238½p.

Mining shares had a nervous session as the African National Congress in South Africa announced reform plans for mineral rights. The announcement sparked profit-taking in **RTZ**, 15p lower at 813p, while **Vaal Reefs** fell by £3⁷⁄₁₆ to £67³⁄₁₆. **Randfontein** 37p to 707p and **Western Deep** £1¹¹⁄₁₆ lower at £28⅝. **LWT** shares rose from 652p to 661p after a recommendation from Kleinwort Benson, the broker, to reject the current bid terms offered from Granada.

GILT-EDGED: The long gilt future ended down £¾ at £118⁹⁄₃₂, on active volume of 100,500 contracts traded. Losses in the cash market stretched to £¾ at the longer end, with traders nervous before today's expected auction announcement.

NEW YORK: Wall Street shares, under pressure from a decline in the bond market and weak European bourses, continued to trade on the downside at midday. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 17.17 points to 3,831.46.

PHILIP PANGALOS



ANTHONY HARRIS

Indexed: the fashionable bolt hole

THE stock market has begun 1994 as if it was out to provide illustrations for a textbook on market psychology. It may have hit a ceiling for *contrarian* reasons: all the most bullish scenarios are already discounted in current prices. Day-to-day movements are *contrarian* in a different sense: the market falls on good economic news, because the supposed strength of the economy reduces hope of a further cut in interest rates; but really bad news would delfate profit hopes.

In the deeper background is the Gordon Pepper flow-of-funds analysis: rising business confidence will divert funds from financial into real investment; so recovery is bad news for the markets even if rates don't rise, as New York may now be showing. What is more, it might also be bad news for inflation, since real growth would surely raise oil and raw material prices from their present depressed levels. This may prove only a minor threat to price stability: inflation is low not because materials are cheap, but because of intense competition and worldwide over-capacity. Even so, an oil price surge would frighten the markets.

This kind of heads-we-lose, tails-they-win logic is beginning to appear in market circulars, but it is only one element in the uncertainty that is making investors jittery. A second, as this column has noted, is the extraordinary range of respectable economic forecasts, ranging from a golden age of inflation-free growth to renewed currency and political crises. And the third is doubt about where we are now. Look, for example, at the "evidence" for current strength in the economy.

Retail sales are booming, evidence of consumer-led growth. Or are they? The only evidence so far is gossip. In the US, where the statisticians sometimes work a bit faster than ours, it is emerging that the rumoured Christmas boom was hardly even a boomlet; some British disappointments have surfaced. Then there is the fall in unemployment. Evidence of strength? Well, maybe; dole claims are certainly down. But British unemployment is still rising on the ILO measure. Some drop-outs reappear as disabled or early retired; other jobs behave like amoebae, splitting into two or more.

Good trade figures? Only if you believe the EU's Intrastat trade figures. Few do. Bill Martin, of UBS and the gloomiest of gurus, believe they may understate the UK deficit by as much as half. By far the most convincing evidence of recovery is in surveys of business confidence; but as the stuttering US recovery showed in its first years, businessmen habitually greet the dawn some time before the sun actually comes up. And even if this situation is every bit as good as optimist believe, we still have to wait to see the impact of the enormous tax deflation that begins in April.

Without going to the extremes of Martin gloom or Congdon optimism, we can say that an outlook of rather sluggish growth and rising, partly tax-driven inflation is well within the frame; indeed, most consensus forecasts are a version of this combination.

Clearly, there are risks here both for equities and for conventional gilts; and this is why some brokers are persuading their clients to take their generous profits in both markets, and switch into that boring old each-way bet, the indexed gilts market.

On consensus inflation forecasts, indexed bought near the issue price promise a cash return of nearly 6 per cent to maturity, only half of it taxed, and free of risk. If the budget proves depressing, and inflation comes in under forecast, then real yields could fall further, offering a tidy capital profit, because low yields mean a high price response. If the ball rolls the other way, and inflation and activity pick up, hold to maturity. The risk is all opportunity cost: the danger of missing a more dynamic market.

Even those like myself, who regard indexed as a slightly wimpish option, should remember that this remains quite a narrow market, so there could be profit in following the other wimps. It beats biting your nails, anyway.

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND

US $ ... 1.4955 (-0.0057)
German mark ... 2.6197 (+0.0126)
Exchange index ... 82.9 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ... 3360.0 (-12.0)
Dow Jones ... 3831.46 (-17.17)*
Nikkei Avg ... 18577.26 (-216.62)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base ... 5½%
3-month Interbank ... 5⁷⁄₁₆-5⅜%
US Federal Funds ... 2¹⁵⁄₁₆%*
3-month Treas Bills ... 2.95-2.93%*
Long Bond ... 6.23%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.4970*	£:$	1.4965
$:DM	1.7509*	£:DM	2.6199
$:SWfr	1.4770*	£:SWfr	2.2119
$:Ffr	5.9403*	£:Ffr	8.8880
$:Yen	111.86*	£:Yen	167.39
£:SDR	1.0914	£:ECU	1.3445

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 384.75 ... PM 388.75
Close ... 389.10-389.60
New York:
Comex ... 390.15-390.65*

OIL

Brent Crude ... $13.60 per bbl (Mar)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 141.6 Nov (1.4%) Jan 1987=100
* Denotes midday trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.31	2.11
Austria Sch	19.29	17.79
Belgium Fr	57.41	53.01
Canada $	2.095	1.935
Cyprus Cyp£	0.810	0.760
Denmark Kr	10.70	9.90
Finland Mkk	9.24	8.44
France Fr	9.30	8.60
Germany Dm	2.76	2.55
Greece Dr	396.50	371.50
Hong Kong $	12.26	11.26
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2628.00	2473.00
Japan Yen	184.00	167.00
Malta	0.623	0.568
Netherlds Gld	3.065	2.835
Norway Kr	11.83	11.03
Portugal Esc	274.00	256.50
S Africa Rd	5.90	5.00
Spain Pta	222.50	208.50
Sweden Kr	12.81	12.01
Switzerland Fr	2.33	2.15
Turkey Lira	22190.0	21130.0
USA $	1.600	1.470

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday

Cellnet stake helps Securicor to record

By COLIN CAMPBELL

SECURICOR Group and Security Services, its 50.75 per cent subsidiary, both achieved record pre-tax profits in the year ended September 30, and are raising their total dividend 13 per cent.

Roger Wiggs, group chief executive, said the profit contribution from the 40 per cent shareholding in Cellnet increased from £45.9 million to £46.3 million, and that the subscriber base of the group's cellular retailing company grew during the year from 68,000 to 103,000.

A new product recently launched that combats vehicle theft should further help sales and profits, he added.

Pre-tax profits of Securicor Group were £63 million, compared with a restated £47.3 million, on a turnover of £637.3 million (£583.8 million), and 1993 net earnings turned out at 30.2p (24.3p) a share.

A final dividend of 2.229p (1.955p) makes 2.961p (2.62p) a share for the year.

At Security Services, pre-tax profits rose from a restated £30.7 million to £43.3 million, on a turnover of £616.4 million (£562.9 million).



Wiggs: subscribers soaring

A final dividend of 4.151p (3.636p) makes 5.684p (5.03p) a share for the year.

The business activities of the two groups include security cash-in-transit operations and alarms, parcels services, communications through the Cellnet shareholding, hotels and insurance.

The debt/equity ratio remains healthy and the overall financial position was robust, the group said.

Peter Smith, the chairman, said that while early indications of current trading would normally suggest that the general improvement of the past year should continue, "optimism must be tempered by concern over the possible fragility of economic recovery".

Shares of Securior A and Security Services both rose 6p to 916p and 786p, respectively.

Guarding operations continued to experience very difficult trading conditions in the slow climb out of general recession, and there was little real growth in the parcels market, which Mr Wiggs says "continues to suffer from over-capacity".

Aggregate losses from other communications businesses continued to reduce in line with plans, falling from £6.6 million to £4.5 million.

Securicor Vehicle Services, which includes the group's own 7,000 fleet, improved its performance, and hotel interests "had another relatively successful year".

RECENT ISSUES

Aberforth Split Lvl C (100)	100½	...
Abtrust Lloyds Insce (100)	95½	...
CLM Insce (100)	110	...
Chelsfield (155)	179	-2
DFS Furniture (260)	319	...
Fairbairn Euro Smlr (100)	98	...
Finsbury U/writing Inv	111	...
For & Col Smaller (100)	114½	-3
Friends Prov Ethical (60)	60	...
Friends Prov Uts (120)	121	-2
Friends Prov Zero Pf (60)	62	-¼
Gartmore (168)	199	...
Govett Emerging C	105	...
Govett High Inc (100)	106	-1
Harmony Leisure Wts	4½	+½
Inspirations (100)	137	+13
Kleinwort 2 Ed Plcy (50)	51½	...
Litho Supplies (190)	240	...
London Industrial (320)	366	...
Masthead Insce (100)	108	...
Mercury World Mng (100)	112	+½
NM Smllr Aust (100)	110	...
NM Smllr Wts	61	...
Nelson Hurst (140)	155	...
New London Cap (100)	100	+1
On Demand Info (78)	114	...
Pilot Inv C (100)	107	...
Rackwood (40)	44	...
Rossmont (10)	11	...
Secur End Cont (60)	68	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Anglo Irish n/p (48)	16	...
Bemrose n/p (325)	105	+2
Cementone n/p (73)	15	...
Europe Energy n/p (5)	6½	-½
Halkin n/p (66)	5	...
Sheldon Jones n/p (25)	8	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

TSB	267p (+15p)
Provident	484p (+11p)
Blue Circle	363p (+12p)
First Leisure	310p (+19p)
Euro Disney	405p (+12p)
Watmough	438p (+14p)
BICC	442p (+10p)
Logica	303p (+18p)

FALLS:

Allied-Lyons	647p (-14p)
Swire Pacific 'A'	480p (-13p)
Takeda Chem	690p (-16p)
Wellcome	650p (-24p)
Yorkshire TV	180p (-11p)
Reed Int	855p (-13p)
Shell	710p (-15p)

Closing Prices Page 27

WALL STREET

	Jan 13 midday	Jan 12 close
AMP Inc	62	63
AMR Corp	71	70
Abbott Labs	29	29
Aetna Life	56	56
Ahmanson (HF)	19	19
Air Prod & Chem	46	46
Albertson's	25	25
Alcan Alumnm	22	22
Alco Standard	57	57
Allied Signal	77	77
Alum Co of Am	72	72
Amax Gold Inc	7	7
Amerada Hess	46	47
Amer Brands	35	35
Amer Cyanamid	50	50
Amer El Power	35	35
Amer Express	31	30
Amer Genl Corp	28	29
Amer Home Pr	64	65
Amer Intl	85	85
Amer Stores	43	43
Amer T & T	53	54
Ameritech	75	75
Amoco	53	53
Anheuser-Busch	49	49
Apple Computer	30	30
Archer Daniels	24	24
Arkla	7	8
Armco	6	6
Armstrng Wrld	54	54
Asarco	23	23
Ashland Oil	38	37
Atl Richfield	107	107
Autm Data Pro	53	53
Avery Dennison	28	29
Avon Products	53	53
Baker Hughes	20	21
Baltim Gas & El	24	24
Banc One	38	38
BankAmerica	47	47
Bank of NY	58	58
Bankers Tr NY	78	78
Barnett Banks	40	40
Bausch & Lomb	50	49
Baxter Intl	24	24
Becton Dickinsn	39	39
Bell Atlantic	56	56
BellSouth	56	57
Black & Decker	20	20
Block (H&R)	41	41
Boeing	43	42
Boise Cascade	29	29
Borden Inc	15	15
Bristol Myrs Sq	58	58
Browning Ferris	27	27
Brunswick	19	19
Burlington Nthn	58	59
CBS	289	292
CNA Financial	78	78
CPC Intl	48	49
CSX	85	86
Campbell Soup	40	41
Can Pacific	17	17
Cpt Cities ABC	626	629
Cpt Holdings	36	36
Carolina Pwr	29	29
Caterpillar	90	90
Central & SW	30	30
Champion Intl	34	35
Chase Manhat	34	34
Chemical Bk	41	41
Chevron Corp	89	89
Chrysler	58	59
Chubb Corp	77	77
Cigna Corp	69	63
Citicorp	40	38
Clorox	53	54
Coastal Corp	28	28
Coca Cola	42	43
Colgate-Palmolive	60	61
Columbia Gas	22	22
Commonw Ed	22	22
Compaq Comp	78	79
Comp Ass Intl	42	42
Conagra	26	27
Cons Edison	31	31
Cons Nat Gas	45	46
Cons Rail	67	67
Cooper Inds	50	50
Corning Inc	30	31
Crown Cork	38	37
Dana Corp	59	59
Dayton Hudson	68	68
Deere	75	75
Delta Air Lines	56	56
Deluxe Corp	37	37
Detroit Edison	29	29
Digital Equip	37	37
Dillard Dept St	36	36
Disney (Walt)	46	46
Dominion Res	43	43
Donnelley (RR)	31	31
Dover Corp	60	59
Dow Chemical	58	59
Dow Jones	36	38
Dresser	21	21
Duke Power	42	42
Dun & Bradstreet	61	62
Du Pont	51	52
Eastman Kodak	45	45

	Jan 13 midday	Jan 12 close
Eaton Corp	55	55
Emerson Elec	62	62
Engelhard Corp	25	25
Enron Corp	28	28
Ethyl Corp	18	18
Exxon	65	64
FMC Corp	48	49
FPL Group	36	37
Federal Express	74	75
Fed Nat Mtge	85	85
First Chicago	41	41
First Interstate	68	69
First Union Rlty	10	10
Fleet Finl Grp	34	34
Fluor Corp	41	41
Ford Motor	67	67
GTE Corp	34	34
Gannett	57	57
Gap Inc Del	41	41
Gen Dynamics	92	91
Gen Electric	105	106
Gen Mills	61	61
Gen Motors	59	59
Gen Reinsurance	105	104
Gen Signal	35	35
Genuine Parts	38	39
Georgia Pac	72	72
Gillette	61	62
Glaxo ADR	19	19
Goodrich (BF)	41	41
Goodyear Tire	45	45
Grace (WR)	42	41
Grt Atl Pac Tea	24	24
Great Wstn Fin	19	20
Halliburton	31	32
Harcourt General	38	38
Heinz (HJ)	35	36
Hercules	110	110
Hershey Foods	48	48
Hewlett Packard	84	84
Hilton Hotels	65	64
Home Depot	38	39
Homestake Mng	23	23
Honeywell	33	33
Household Intl	32	33
Houston Inds	45	45
Humana	17	17
ITT Corp	97	92
Illinois Tool	41	41
INCO	21	27
Ingersoll Rand	40	40
Inland Steel	35	36
Intel Corp	67	68
IBM	58	58
Intl Flav & Fr	115	115
Intl Paper	71	72
James River Va	19	20
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	43	44
K Mart	19	20
Kellogg	56	56
Kerr-McGee	45	45
Kimberly-Clark	53	53
Knight-Ridder	57	58
Lilly (Eli)	58	58
Limited Inc	17	17
LIN Brdcstng	107	107
Lincoln Nat	42	42
Litton	68	68
Liz Claiborne	22	22
Lockheed Corp	66	66
Louisiana Pac	41	41
MCI Commun	25	25
Marriott Int	29	29
Marsh & McLnn	83	83
Masco Corp	36	36
May Dept St	39	39
Maytag Corp	17	17
McCaw Cellular	52	52
McDonalds	57	58
McDonnell D	108	107
McGraw Hill	69	69
Mead Corp	46	46
Medtronic	82	82
Mellon Bk	55	54
Melville Corp	40	40
Merck Inc	36	36
Merrill Lynch	42	43
Minnesota Mine	109	110
Mobil Corp	78	79
Monsanto	78	77
Morgan (JP)	69	69
Motorola Inc	95	94
Natl Medical	15	14
Natl Semi	19	19
Natl Service Ind	26	26
Navistar Intl	26	26
NBD Bancorp	29	30
NY Times A	28	28
Newmont Mng	58	57
Niag Mohawk	19	20
Nike B	51	51
NL Industries	5	5
Nordstrom	32	32
Norfolk Sthrn	72	72
Nthn State Pwr	42	42
Norwest Corp	24	25
Nynex Corp	40	40
Occidental Pet	17	17
Ohio Edison	21	22
Oracle Systems	32	38

	Jan 13 midday	Jan 12 close
Oryx Energy Co	17	17
Owens Corning	43	43
PNC Financial	29	29
PPG Industries	76	76
Paccar Inc	55	56
Pacificorp	19	19
Pac Enterprises	22	23
Pac Gas & Elect	32	32
Pac Telesis	55	55
Pall Corp	18	18
Panhandle East	23	23
Paramnt Comm	77	77
Parker Hannifin	39	39
Penney (JC)	52	52
Pennzoil	53	53
Pepsico	39	40
Pfizer	68	68
Phelps Dodge	51	51
Philadel Elec	29	29
Philip Morris	57	58
Phillips Pet	29	29
Pitney Bowes	41	41
Polaroid	35	35
PriceCostco	17	17
Procter & Gmbl	57	58
Pub Serv E & G	30	31
Quaker Oats	69	69
Ralston Purina	37	37
Raychem Corp	38	38
Raytheon	65	66
Reebok Intl	32	32
Reynolds Metals	48	48
Roadway Srvcs	62	62
Rockwell Intl	37	37
Rohm & Haas	59	59
Royal Dutch	105	106
Rubbermaid	33	34
Safeco Corp	54	54
St Paul's Cos	87	87
Salomon Inc	46	46
Santa Fe Pac	23	23
Sara Lee Corp	24	24
Scecorp	19	20
Schering Plough	67	66
Schlumberger	59	59
Scott Paper	42	42
Seagram	28	28
Sears Roebuck	52	52
Shell Trans	65	65
Sherwin Wlms	33	33
Skyline Corp	21	21
Snap-On-Tools	41	41
Southern Co	43	43
Stwestern Bell	39	39
Sprint Corp	35	34
Stanley Works	43	43
Sun Company	31	31
Sun Microsys	29	30
Suntrust	45	45
Supervalu	38	38
Syntex Corp	16	16
Sysco Corp	28	28
TRW Inc	70	70
Tandem Comp	11	12
Tandy Corp	44	44
Telecom Corp	3	3
Teledyne	25	25
Temple Inland	52	52
Tenneco	54	54
Texaco	66	65
Texas Inst	70	70
Texas Utilities	39	39
Textron	58	59
Time Warner	39	39
Times-Mirror	34	34
Timken	34	35
Torchmark	45	45
Toys R Us	39	39
Transamerica	57	57
Travelers	39	40
Tribune	59	59
Tyco Labs	51	52
UAL Corp	146	147
UST Inc	28	28
USX Marathon	16	17
Unilever NV	112	113
Union Camp	49	49
Union Carbide	22	22
Union Pacific	65	65
Unisys Corp	13	13
USAIR Group	12	13
USF&G Corp	14	14
US Life	38	38
US West	42	43
United Tech	64	64
Unocal Corp	28	28
Upjohn	29	28
VF Corp	45	47
WMX Tech	28	29
Wal-Mart Stores	25	25
Warner-Lambert	67	67
Wells Fargo	130	131
Westinghouse El	13	13
Weyerhaeuser	47	47
Whirlpool	66½	67
Whitman	16	16
Winn Dixie	49	49
Woolworth	25	25
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	44	44
Xerox	91	91

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	5,600	Cadbury	4,100	MEPC	1,000	Scot Power	3,500
Abbey Natl	11,000	Caradon	2,000	Marks Spr	2,200	Sears	5,200
Alld-Lyons	1,500	Carlton Cms	1,500	NFC	310	Svrn Trent	1,800
Anglian W	875	Coats Vyla	2,000	NatWst Bk	7,700	Shell Trans	3,100
Argyll Gp	6,100	Cm Union	1,900	Nat Power	3,300	Siebe	1,300
Arjo Wiggns	2,900	Courtaulds	383	Nth Wst W	2,200	SmKl Bch	6,700
AB Foods	112	Enterpr Oil	1,700	Nthrn Fds	3,900	Smith Nph	1,800
BAA	853	Forte	3,300	P & O	529	Sthrn Elec	235
BAT Inds	3,200	GRE	1,400	Pearson	993	Std Chartd	705
BOC	2,800	GUS	1,500	PowerGen	1,500	Sun Allnce	1,600
BP	5,900	Gen Acc	335	Prudential	4,200	TI Gp	2,600
BTR	4,900	Gen Elec	6,300	RMC	166	TSB	47,000
BT	7,600	Glaxo	5,600	RTZ	3,500	Tesco	15,000
Bk of Scot	5,300	Granada	2,300	Rank Org	2,000	Thames W	303
Barclays	6,400	Grand Met	6,300	Reckitt Col	363	Thrn EMI	644
Bass	2,500	Guinness	4,900	Redland	1,800	Tomkins	3,700
Blue Circle	2,800	HSBC	5,800	Reed Intl	1,000	Unilever	1,900
Boots	2,500	Hanson	9,500	Rentokil	553	Utd Bisc	1,000
Bowater	951	ICI	2,300	Reuters	1,600	Vodafone	3,600
Brit Aero	828	Inchcape	793	Rolls Royce	4,900	Wrbrg (SG)	207
Brit Airways	1,400	Kingfisher	1,900	Ryl Ins	1,000	Wellcome	2,300
Brit Gas	11,000	Ladbroke	3,700	Ryl Bk Scot	1,600	Whitbread 'A'	607
Brit Steel	17,000	Land Secs	1,700	Sainsbury	4,400	Wlims Hld	1,500
Burmah Cil	266	Legal & Gn	417	Schroders	11	Wolseley	520
Cable Wire	6,700	Lloyds Bk	12,000	Scot & New	2,700	Zeneca	2,700

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones ... 3831.46 (-17.17)
S&P Composite ... 471.87 (-2.29)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Avge ... 18577.26 (-216.62)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng ... 10176.51 (-536.22)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index ... 415.65 (-0.70)

Sydney: AO ... 2177.5 (-19.1)

Frankfurt:
DAX ... 2164.66 (-44.52)

FT 30 share: ... 2577.6 (+3.2)

Brussels:
General ... 7527.44 (-75.53)

Paris: CAC-40 ... 2252.19 (-29.71)

Zurich: SKA Gen ... 702.60 (-13.00)

London:
FT A All-Share ... 1673.12 (-2.74)
FT Non Financials ... 1784.72 (-3.15)
FT Gold Mines ... 242.9 (-17.9)
FT Fixed Interest ... 131.91 (-0.19)
FT Govt Secs ... 106.00 (-0.41)
Bargains ... 36899
SEAQ Volume ... 900.0m
USM (Datastrm) ... 158.16 (+0.04)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
January 10	January 21	April 7	April 18

Calls on 13/1/94: Alphameric, Arcon Int, Br Thornton, Cannon St Inv, Carlisle Group, Celsis, Courtyard Leisure, Crossroads Oil, Ennes Int, Fleming Jap Wts, Kells Mns, GEC, Ladbrokes, Laura Ashley, NHL, Ovoca Res, Sthn Deep, TSB, Tadpole Tech. Puts: Br Thornton, Celsis, Crossroads Oil, Sthn Deep. Puts & Calls: Rhino, Tiphook.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 94	3394.5	3396.0	3359.0	3368.0	19999
Previous open interest: 73953	Jun 94	3380.0	3380.0	3375.0	3381.0	84
Three Month Sterling	Mar 94	94.66	94.68	94.63	94.65	10481
Previous open interest: 417647	Jun 94	94.76	94.82	94.77	94.79	20727
	Sep 94	94.80	94.84	94.77	94.78	12818
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 94	96.62	96.62	96.60	96.60	180
Previous open interest: 9570	Jun 94	96.35	96.35	96.32	96.32	325
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 94	94.48	94.52	94.43	94.45	53254
Previous open interest: 504450	Jun 94	94.92	94.96	94.83	94.86	57522
Long Gilt	Mar 94	119-00	119-06	118-04	118-09	100731
Previous open interest: 104065	Jun 94	118-19	118-19	118-14	117-21	30
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 94	117.65	117.67	117.10	117.13	5122
	Jun 94				116.03	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 94	101.16	101.25	100.66	100.74	186888
Previous open interest: 146649	Jun 94	101.15	101.15	100.80	100.69	114
German Gov Bd Bobl	Mar 94	103.44	103.48	103.12	103.16	2497
Previous open interest: 10349	Jun 94					0
Three month ECU	Mar 94	94.10	94.13	94.04	94.04	1092
Previous open interest: 39980	Jun 94	94.60	94.63	94.57	94.57	512
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 94	96.26	96.30	96.20	96.22	7594
Previous open interest: 54018	Jun 94	96.56	96.59	96.49	96.52	2002
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 94	117.99	118.62	117.60	117.72	64680
Previous open interest: 86015	Jun 94	118.30	118.50	118.30	117.77	134

LIFFE OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Lyon	600	50	66	73	1	10	22
(*646)	650	11	34	43	14	30	45
Argyll	280	21	32	38	2	10	18
(*297)	300	7	21	27	8	19	26
ASDA	60	3	7	9	2	6	7
(*61)	70	1	3	5	10	12	14
Boots	550	14	33	44	7	21	32
(*555)	600	1	12	21	47	52	61
Br Airways	460	38	43	55	3	15	25
(*482)	500	5	20	33	23	35	46
BP	330	37	39	46	1	6	11
(*358)	360	7	21	28	7	17	24
Br Steel	120	5	11	16	2	8	11
(*122)	130	2	6	11	9	13	16
C & W	475	29	40	55	4	19	24
(*494)	500	9	28	42	14	27	37
CU	650	16	27	40	9	28	34
(*659)	700	2	11	24	46	62	66
ICI	750	25	46	60	5	37	49
(*766)	800	4	22	39	39	69	76
Kingfisher	700	39	64	77	5	19	29
(*737)	750	7	37	51	29	41	54
Land Sec	700	45	60	68	1	9	21
(*740)	750	7	27	37	16	29	45
M & S	420	25	28	41	2	9	15
(*443)	460	3	16	22	19	28	35
Nat West	550	26	40	50	2	17	24
(*581)	600	5	18	32	23	45	51
Sainsbury	460	12	31	39	7	20	30
(*465)	500	1	14	21	37	44	54
Shell	700	14	31	44	6	26	33
(*710)	750	1	10	23	42	60	64
Smkl Bch	390	22	27	40	4	17	25
(*407)	420	6	23	35	19	34	42
Storehse	220	20	27	32	1	5	9
(*238)	260	5	15	21	7	14	16
Trafalgar	88	9	15	19	2	6	8
(*95)	97	4	10	14	5	10	14
Unilever	1150	24	51	69	11	41	54
(*1159)	1200	4	29	45	46	71	82
Zeneca	900	34	55	72	7	33	45
(*825)	950	8	29	49	33	62	73

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	460	29	37	47	11	19	25
(*482)	500	7	18	27	34	42	46
Ladbrke	200	13	20	25	10	22	26
(*201)	220	5	12	18	23	34	38
Utd Bisc	360	27	33	39	6	16	22
(*378)	390	10	16	24	20	23	39

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	1000	48	77	95	2	22	35
(*1040)	1050	14	47	66	21	42	58
Thames W	550	34	49	57	2	12	25
(*579)	600	3	19	29	25	37	52

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	500	29	37	45	11	24	35
(*519)	550	6	14	23	39	56	64
BTR	330	27	35	38	4	12	16
(*349)	360	8	15	23	18	28	31
Br Aero	420	28	46	58	15	31	41
(*431)	460	11	27	40	41	55	64
Br Telcm	460	14	25	33	11	17	25
(*460)	500	3	9	16	42	44	50
Cadburys	460	42	47	—	3	14	—
(*527)	542	10	18	—	22	39	—
Guinness	460	31	41	49	9	22	28
(*479)	500	9	20	29	29	44	51
GEC	330	11	19	25	9	15	21
(*330)	360	2	7	12	32	34	40
Hanson	260	14	19	21	4	9	13
(*269)	280	4	9	12	14	20	24
LASMO	110	16	22	27	5	11	14
(*119)	120	9	17	22	9	14	19
Lucas	200	13	19	25	7	13	17
(*204)	220	4	10	16	19	25	28
Pilkngtn	180	15	19	24	5	11	14
(*185)	200	3	9	15	17	22	26
Prudential	360	15	21	27	9	19	24
(*364)	390	3	9	15	29	39	42
Redland	550	54	64	70	5	20	27
(*595)	600	24	34	42	25	45	52
Royal Ins	317	15	—	—	11	—	—
(*321)	346	4	—	—	24	—	—
Tesco	220	24	28	33	4	10	12
(*238)	240	10	15	22	11	19	22
Vodafone	550	52	70	84	10	24	39
(*594)	600	22	43	59	33	48	61
Williams	360	31	35	42	4	12	16
(*384)	390	12	19	26	15	27	31

FT-SE INDEX (*3358)

	3250	3300	3350	3400	3450	3500
Calls						
Jan	114	70	34	12	5	2
Feb	141	105	73	48	30	17
Mar	160	124	95	70	49	33
Apr	176	143	112	97	66	50
Jun	—	180	—	125	—	90
Puts						
Jan	5	12	29	59	104	152
Feb	25	39	53	84	117	158
Mar	45	59	80	105	135	172
Apr	60	76	96	129	150	185
Jun	—	104	—	149	—	206

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Natl	500	29	35	46	21	27	39
(*508)	550	7	15	25	54	59	65
Amstrad	40	7	9	11	2	4	5
(*44)	45	4	6	8	5	6	9
Barclays	550	57	64	74	12	17	25
(*594)	600	29	35	47	33	39	46
Blue Circ	330	43	49	56	7	15	22
(*362)	360	29	31	41	18	29	30
Br Gas	330	19	24	29	9	17	21
(*335)	360	6	10	15	27	37	40
Dixons	220	21	29	32	9	17	20
(*231)	240	11	18	22	19	24	31
Forte	260	22	27	32	9	16	21
(*270)	280	12	16	23	19	28	31
Hillsdwn	180	14	17	20	8	15	17
(*183)	200	5	8	12	21	29	30
Lonrho	140	11	17	22	11	15	18
(*141)	160	4	9	15	25	28	31
Sears	120	9	12	14	4	7	9
(*123)	130	5	7	9	11	14	15
Thrn Emi	1000	73	97	113	16	29	47
(*1049)	1050	43	67	82	37	50	70
Tomkins	240	21	26	32	9	11	15
(*253)	260	9	16	22	17	21	26
TSB	260	18	25	31	11	19	22
(*269)	280	8	15	22	23	28	33
Wellcome	650	42	59	75	34	53	60
(*650)	700	21	38	55	66	84	91

	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	650	51	71	81	37	51	66
(*662)	700	29	49	60	67	79	96
HSBC	850	67	87	100	41	56	65
(*890)	900	41	63	76	68	82	90
Reuter	1850	96	144	170	93	117	130
(*1852)	1900	72	119	144	122	143	155

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
R-Royce	156	12	—	—	5	—	—
(*161)	176	3	—	—	18	—	—

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	140	17	24	30	13	19	24
(*142)	160	9	16	22	26	32	36

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Eastrn Elc	600	49	60	70	6	12	23
(*645)	650	15	30	41	26	33	47

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	35	44	51	13	23	28
(*477)	500	15	27	32	34	44	50
Scot Pwr	420	41	51	59	7	13	19
(*453)	460	16	28	37	24	30	38

January 13, 1994 Tot: 43378 Call: 26722 Put: 16656 FT-SE Call: 7820 Put: 6168
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

COMMODITIES REPORT: London cocoa ended strongly behind rising New York prices after an active and volatile day, whereas coffee was more subdued, quietly holding earlier gains. White sugar was mostly weaker by the close. UK wheat futures closed with old and new crop prices easier, mainly due to profit-taking and sterling's strength against the mark.

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): An overhang of unsold January cargoes in the North Sea put pressure on prompt crude.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	915-914	May	985-984
May	924-923	Jul	995-990
Jul	935-934	Sep	1004-1003
Sep	946-945	Dec	1025-1010
Dec	962-961		
Mar	974-973		Volume: 13009

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	1183-1181	Sep	1199-1198
Mar	1193-1192	Nov	1200-1198
May	1198-1197	Jan	1200-1196
Jul	1194-1193		Volume: 2765

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR (6.00pm)

		Oct	10.95-11.29
Spot: 254.5		Jan	10.90-11.48
Mar	10.67-10.80	Mar	10.65-11.08
May	11.07-11.24	May	10.65-11.88
Jul	11.25-11.49		Volume: 71

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	283.5-82.7
Spot: 290.5		Dec	285.0-82.7
Mar	288.5-87.5	Mar	286.0-84.0
May	290.5-89.5	May	288.9-85.1
Aug	295.5-94.5		Volume: 498

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 13

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	56.20	96.43	122.72
(+/-)	+2.15	-2.48	+0.55
Eng/Wales	66.13	96.69	122.39
(+/-)	+2.12	-2.25	-0.76
(%)	+30.3	-2.3	-4.0
Scotland	72.71	94.73	124.64
(+/-)	+5.63	-4.02	-1.00
(%)	-27.6	+13.3	+16.3

LONDON MEAT FUTURES

Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq	—	Mar	unq	—
Sep	unq	—			Volume: 0

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Jan	99.90
Mar	101.05
May	102.05
Jun	102.40
Sep	91.20
	Volume: 379

BARLEY (close £/t)

Jan	104.25
Mar	105.75
May	106.90
Sep	92.80
Nov	94.90
	Volume: 10

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	
Dec	
Feb	
Apr	
	Volume: 0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Mar	unq	140.0
Apr	110.0	109.3
May	128.0	128.4
		Volume: 73

RUBBER

No 1 RSS Cif (p/kl)
Feb ... 60.75-61.25

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	13.75	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Feb)	13.65	(n/c)
Brent 15 day (Mar)	13.60	(n/c)
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	14.50	(n/c)
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	14.90	+0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	145 (+1)	146 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	148 (+2)	149 (+2)
Non EEC IH Jan	150 (+2)	152 (+2)
Non EEC IH Feb	151 (+2)	153 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	56 (n/c)	58 (n/c)
Naphtha	128 (-2)	130 (-2)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd
GAS OIL

Feb	145.50 BID	May	141.00-41.50
Mar	143.25 BID	Jun	142.00 SLR
Apr	141.50-41.75	Jul	144.00-44.25
			Vol: 20190

BRENT (6.00pm)

Feb	13.60-13.62	May	13.90 BID
Mar	13.61-13.62	Jun	14.11 BID
Apr	13.74-13.77		Vol: 36090

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Jan	unq	Apr	unq
Feb		May	
Mar			Vol: 0

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 94	1265	1255	1263
Feb 94	1290	1281	1290
Mar 94	1315	1300	1310
Apr 94	1331	1322	1331

Vol: 192 lots. Open int'st: 2409. Index 1238 +8

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1751.0-1751.5	1773.0-1774.0	175622
Lead ($/tonne)	479.00-480.00	492.00-492.50	14182
Zinc Spec HI Gde ($/tonne)	990.50-991.00	1010.0-1011.0	58705
Tin ($/tonne)	4785.0-4790.0	4835.0-4840.0	17315
Aluminium HI Gde ($/tonne)	1147.5-1148.5	1160.0-1166.5	142052
Nickel ($/tonne)	5639.0-5640.0	5704.0-5705.0	83220

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was same at 82.9 (day's range 82.8-83.0).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Jan 13	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.9190-2.9342	2.9306-2.9342	⅛pr-⅛ds	¼pr-par
Brussels	54.36-54.66	54.55-54.66	6-10ds	18-25ds
Copenhagen	10.0990-10.1490	10.1330-10.1490	1¼-1¾ds	1½-2½ds
Dublin	1.0460-1.0499	1.0465-1.0495	3-7ds	11-17ds
Frankfurt	2.6072-2.6216	2.6182-2.6216	⅛-⅜ds	¼-⅜ds
Lisbon	262.75-264.45	263.81-264.45	94-173ds	317-417ds
Madrid	215.34-216.05	215.69-215.99	67-76ds	175-198ds
Milan	2535.40-2549.90	2545.80-2549.90	5-7ds	16-18ds
Montreal	1.9754-1.9880	1.9754-1.9783	0.33-0.26pr	0.61-0.48pr
New York	1.4960-1.5028	1.4960-1.4970	0.31-0.30pr	0.84-0.81pr
Oslo	11.2560-11.2960	11.2800-11.2960	⅝-⅜pr	1⅛-⅞pr
Paris	8.8570-8.8980	8.8810-8.8950	⅜-⅞ds	1⅜-2⅛ds
Stockholm	12.1820-12.2850	12.2380-12.2630	1⅞-2⅜ds	4⅛-5⅛ds
Tokyo	167.25-169.07	167.25-167.52	⅞-⅝pr	1⅞-1⅝pr
Vienna	18.33-18.43	18.40-18.43	⅛-⅜pr	1⅛-1⅜pr
Zurich	2.1881-2.2134	2.2103-2.2134	⅜-⅛pr	⅞-⅝pr

Source: Extel. Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina peso*	1.4929-1.4956
Australia dollar	2.1649-2.1694
Bahrain dinar	0.5605-0.5725
Brazil cruzeiro *	553.08-554.68
Cyprus pound	0.772-0.782
Finland marka	8.527-8.643
Greece drachma	372.25-379.23
Hong Kong dollar	11.5643-11.5735
India rupee	46.68-47.64
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4435-0.4535
Malaysia ringgit	4.0829-4.0895
Mexico peso	4.58-4.68
New Zealand dollar	2.6790-2.6841
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5695-5.6095
Singapore dollar	2.4084-2.4115
S Africa rand (fin)	6.4328-6.5120
S Africa rand (com)	5.0938-5.1048
U A E dirham	5.4555-5.5725

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4461-1.4482
Austria	12.29-12.30
Belgium (Com)	36.50-36.54
Canada	1.3220-1.3225
Denmark	6.7740-6.7785
France	5.9415-5.9435
Germany	1.7485-1.7495
Hong Kong	7.7250-7.7260
Ireland	1.4318-1.4328
Italy	1700.5-1701.5
Japan	112.25-112.30
Malaysia	2.7265-2.7300
Netherlands	1.9576-1.9581
Norway	7.5430-7.5480
Portugal	176.25-176.35
Singapore	1.6088-1.6098
Spain	144.22-144.32
Sweden	8.1810-8.1919
Switzerland	1.4775-1.4785

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5½. Finance Hse 5½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5 Low 3 Week fixed: 5⅛
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅛; 3 mth 5. Sell: 2 mth 5; 3 mth 4⅞.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	5⅛-5	5⅛-5	5⅛-5	5⅛-5	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼
Interbank	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼

Overnight: open 5¼, close 3.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps	5⅜	n/a	5⅜	5⅜	5⅜
Sterling CDs	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼
Dollar CDs	3.08-3.05	n/a	3.16-3.13	3.29-3.26	3.60-3.57
Building Society CDs	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅜-5¼

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Dec 31, 1993. Agreed rates Jan 26, 1994 to Feb 25, 1994 Scheme III: 6.65%. Reference rate Dec 1, 1993 to Dec 31, 1993 Scheme IV & V: 5.375%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

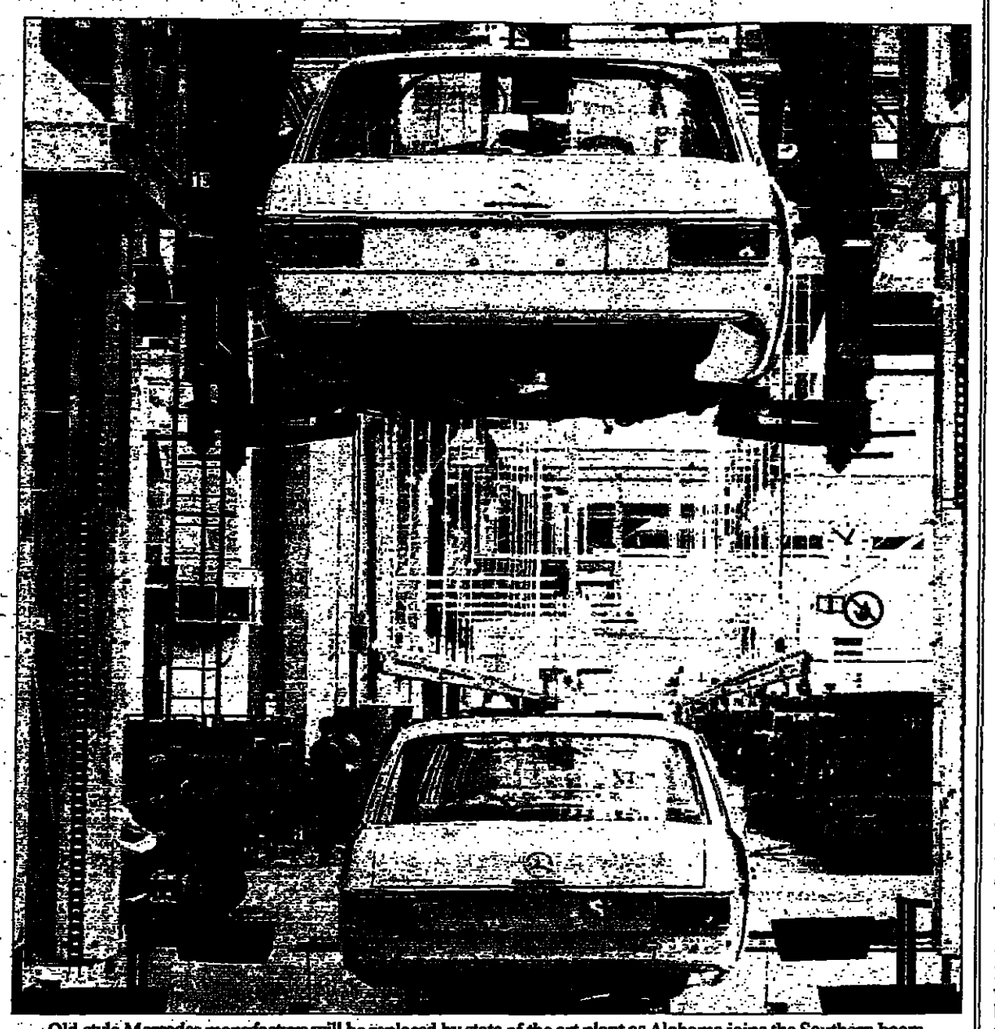
Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar	3-2¾	3⅛-3	3¼-3	3⅜-3¼	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark	6⅛-6	6⅛-5⅞	5⅞-5¾	5⅝-5½	6⅛-5⅞
French Franc	6⅝-6⅛	6⅝-6⅛	6⅛-6	6-5⅞	7⅛-6⅛
Swiss Franc	4⅛-4	4⅛-3⅞	4-3⅞	3⅞-3¾	4⅛-3⅞
Yen	2⅛-2	2⅛-2	2⅛-2	2⅛-2	2⅛-1⅞

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Bullion)

Bullion: Open $384.90-385.30. Close: $389.10-389.60. High: $389.30-390.00. Low: $384.30-384.80. Krugerrand: $388.00-391.00 (£258.75-260.75).
Sovereigns: Old $88.00-92.00 (£59.25-61.25). New $89.00-92.00 (£59.25-61.25).
Platinum: $385.35 (£256.55). Silver: $5.22 (£3.485). Palladium: $123.50 (£82.25).

Foreign firms find nothing finer than to be in Carolina

Ian Brodie reports from Greenville on the efforts of America's Deep South to attract overseas investment into its thriving 'boom belt'



Old-style Mercedes manufacture will be replaced by state-of-the art plant as Alabama joins the Southern boom

The three men could have passed for barbers in their short white jackets with their first names stitched on the right breast identifying them as Fritz, Peter and Jörg. In fact, they were senior BMW executives in charge of building the German carmaker's new factory near Greenville, South Carolina.

Similar jackets and name tags will be issued to everyone who is hired. The Germans decided that for their manufacturing debut in the US they would foster team spirit and an American atmosphere of equality by doing away with all traces of the industrial hierarchy seen at the company's plants in Europe. So there will be no surnames, no executive dining room, no private offices and no reserved parking spaces — the first to arrive for work will get the best spot, the last will have to walk up the hill.

In the once sleepy South of the United States, many Americans and Europeans are learning to adjust to each other's customs. A profusion of foreign firms has set up shop. Most southern states have been touched by the invasion, but the greatest concentration is along 250 miles of Interstate 85, a motorway that runs through North and South Carolina from the Raleigh-Durham area to Charlotte and on to Greenville. More than 800 foreign companies have settled in this "boom belt", led by the Germans, French, Japanese and British — and more arrive every week. Names such as Glaxo, Hitachi, Umbro, BASF and Michelin no longer sound strange to southerners.

In South Carolina alone, one in four manufacturing workers has a foreign employer. Along with an influx of American firms, the foreigners have made the South the fastest growing region in the US. Charlotte, the largest city between Washington and Atlanta, has become the country's third biggest banking centre behind New York and San Francisco. Unemployment in Charlotte is so low, just over 3 per cent, that not all jobs can be filled. Even Tupelo, Mississippi, previously known only as the birthplace of Elvis, has joined the trend and become an international centre for making furniture, with firms from Australia, Brazil, Switzerland and The Netherlands.

Foreign companies are drawn to the South for a variety of reasons. The weather is mild, without the ice and snow that often close down cities and airports further north. Workers are famously anti-union and keen to find jobs — BMW was swamped with 56,000 applications for 2,000 positions. Wages are below the national average. A network of technical colleges, unusual for America, teaches the skills needed for today's manufacturing jobs. Land, power and water are cheap and plentiful. There are excellent roads and deep-water ports at Charleston and along the Gulf of Mexico. Charlotte and Atlanta have thriving international airports. The cost of living remains significantly lower than elsewhere in the US and well below western Europe.

The British firm of Umbro has two factories and nearly 700 workers making its soccer gear in the South. John Stevenson, from Glasgow, Umbro's vice-president of merchandising, described life in Greenville as splendid for families. There is plenty of sport, especially golf, many lakes for boating, and an impressive new arts centre with top-notch concerts, opera, ballet and plays. Beaches and skiing are both within easy driving distance. Mr Stevenson said: "Houses that would cost £200,000 in UK sell for $200,000, with four bedrooms, three bathrooms, up to three-quarters of an acre and usually a swimming pool."

Southern states vie furiously with the competition in offering incentives to attract major overseas firms. BMW had scouted 250 locations in ten countries before choosing South Carolina which offered a package worth $130 million for a plant with an annual payroll of $66 million. The inducements included extension of the airport runway to take cargo jumbos, special training for the entire workforce, new roads, plus purchase and clearing of the 1,000-acre site. BMW will be spared a state profits tax that will be replaced by a less burdensome fee for at least 20 years. BMW's investment will be $400 million and they expect to begin production of series-3 models next September at wages more than a third lower than in Germany.

BMW's arrival set off a scramble among the southern states to capture Mercedes-Benz, also looking for a site. The surprising winner was Alabama, a laggard in the race for economic revival, but which handily beat all comers. Alabama's enticements, worth $253 million, raised the issue of how much is too much to give away. Under the generous proposal, Alabama essentially donated the land, promised to develop the site, undertook to train the workers, adopted controversial tax abatements that will help Mercedes-Benz retire the debt on its investment and promised to rename the local motorway as the Mercedez-Benz Autobahn. The payoff, according to Alabama officials, will be $7.3 billion in economic benefits over the next 20 years.

It is ten o'clock in the evening and Addy's Dutch Restaurant, in Greenville, is packed. There is no Budweiser at the bar, but European beers are ordered in a variety of accents. Further in the back, patrons chomp on fish and chips, shepherd's pie, German sausages and other dishes cherished by expatriates. Presiding over the din is Addy Sulley, a slightly wild Dutchman who, echoing Casablanca, grandly announces: "Everyone comes to Addy's. This is ground zero for all the Euro-trash of Greenville."

In this noisy setting, one hears stories about the southern boom that are in contrast to the unceasingly upbeat messages delivered by chambers of commerce and other boosters. Britons, Germans and others, talking not for attribution, complain that fundamentalist religion still holds the region in its bigoted grip. Greenville is totally "dry" on Sundays, with no alcohol on sale anywhere. Places like Addy's are looked on with suspicion, even though they bring a cosmopolitan air to the city's night life.

The workers are described as often too slow and easy-going. "There's a widespread attitude that tomorrow will do," says one European executive. He also has a different slant on the technical colleges, saying they are essential because the primary and secondary schools are so awful. The expats say white southerners are frequently scathing about blacks, but relations between the races strike newcomers as far friendlier than in Los Angeles and other large cities.

Some southerners resent the influx of outsiders because it implies they were unable to fix their sagging economies unaided. Two years ago, a group of 500 businesses in Greensboro, North Carolina, joined forces to protect their heritage — and its low wages — by discouraging United Airlines from building a maintenance centre that would have created 6,000 unionised jobs averaging $40,000 a year, well above existing local pay scales.

Another unsettling feature of the boom belt is its limited reach. In the foothills, in sight of Interstate 85, are hamlets that are among the poorest in the nation. Poverty has stayed stubbornly intractable in the South, and the pace of economic change has only widened the gap between rich and poor.

Southerners were initially put out when foreign executives seemed to expect a collection of guitar-playing hillbillies, Southern belles in flouncy dresses and retired colonels in white suits. Nowadays, the South's business recruiters exploit these stereotypes. When Tennessee officials give receptions in Tokyo, they serve Jack Daniels and teach the Tennessee Waltz. Atlanta has hired models to play Rhett, Scarlett and other characters from *Gone With the Wind* to impress potential foreign investors. As a Georgian bank president put it: "We'll do whatever it takes."

TEMPUS

TSB gets its act together

IT HAS been a long time coming, but TSB has pulled its act together, with a little help from an economic recovery. At many points in the last five years, shareholders could have been forgiven for thinking the bank was on an endless downward spiral. Despite regular management reshuffles and promises of firm action, profits shrank and bad debts grew.

The £171 million rise in shareholders' funds is the most positive feature of a heartening set of results, since the bank's net worth had been shrinking ever since it bought Hill Samuel in 1987. Released from an insupportable weight of bad debts, the strength of the income stream from the large and loyal customer base is beginning to show. There is plenty of scope for further earnings and dividend growth in the short term, since bad debt provisions are still swallowing almost half operating profits, and it will take up to five years for TSB to work out its £1.9 billion corporate bad debt portfolio.

After that, the picture becomes hazy. Income from the core banking and life assurance business is static, and unlikely to improve. Ironically, Hill Samuel appears the best long-term growth prospect, even though it is now looks semi-detached from the rest of the group, despite the decision not to sell it. Otherwise, the easiest way of driving profits forward is cutting costs, which explains TSB's enthusiasm for closing branches.

Such a scenario leaves TSB looking overcapitalised, with a risk/asset ratio of 13.2 per cent. The bank is unwilling to hand this back to shareholders, and talks ominously about acquisitions. This, however, is where all the trouble began.

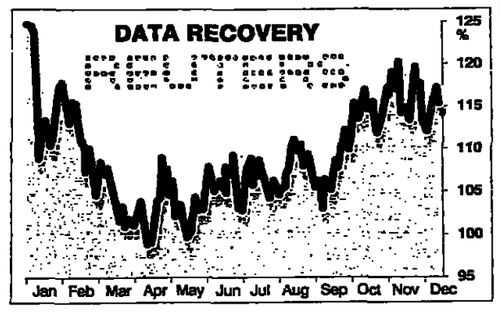
Reuters

FOR a global information group, Reuters is irritatingly secretive when it comes to talking about itself. The group's agreement to buy Quotron is its most important strategic move in years, but yesterday it refused to even hint at any of the key financial details.

The clues suggest Reuters is paying a nominal sum for Quotron, since Citicorp was desperate to get rid of such a consistent loss-maker — as shown by its $179 million asset writedown on the sale. The eventual price could even be negative, once Citicorp's agreement to underwrite some of Quotron's costs is taken into account.

For this, Reuters obtains a quantum leap for its equities business, doubling its worldwide market share to an estimated 25 per cent. Equities have always been the poor relation in Reuters' services, compared with its dominance in fixed interest and foreign exchange. This weakness should even enable Reuters to avoid anti-trust difficulties, even though its competitors are likely to complain loudly.

Quotron's 40,000 screens will increase Reuters worldwide total by about one-sixth, and the integration of the expanded customer base will give it plenty of scope for earnings growth. As a result, the shares are likely to continue their recent out-performance of the market, particularly if the terms of the deal are indeed as favourable as they look when Reuters finally decides to reveal them.



Rank

RANK Organisation's profits were so far ahead of even its biggest bulls in the analytical community that one might conclude that the Stock Exchange's ban on unofficial briefings is being respected, at least by Rank.

The big surprise in the post-Christmas stocking, however, was a bumper performance from the group's stake in Rank Xerox, where Rank itself has little input. Furthermore, the office equipment group's 10 per cent increase to Rank's profit was entirely accounted for by exchange rate gains, turnover having risen only by a whisker in real terms.

On its own turf, Rank is making impressive gains in the leisure side, where the spend in bingo and nightclubs is increasing ahead of inflation and holidays are drawing increased volumes. The question mark facing the group is whether that growth will continue when the full affect of the new tax increases starts to hit consumers later in the year. Rank draws most of its customers from the C1 and C2 brackets whose disposable incomes will be harder hit by the taxman than wealthier folk. The market wants Rank to reinvest its photocopier investment in the core film and leisure businesses but the company will want its share of the benefit of the Xerox $700 million restructuring as it will be taking its share of the hit this year. A price of £1.2 billion has been mooted but in the meantime Rank could this year earn a decent 20 per cent return on its investment even after a £50 million restructuring hit.

Cray

THE market is expecting a great deal from Cray Electronics. A 50 per cent rise in the half-year dividend and earnings was not enough to satisfy the stocks' bulls, who marked the shares down by more than 3 per cent.

A touch unfair, given there was little in the results to upset. The figures were enhanced by a full contribution from the Dowty IT business but underlying revenues still increased 10 per cent and the like-for like growth in the order book was 15 per cent. Perhaps investors did not like the decision to retain the management consultancy business that came with the PE International acquisition in September. The last thing the stock market needs is another mini-conglomerate with an over-reliance on volatile people-related consultancies. Cray's management team has spent almost five years groping for an identity out of the rag-bag of operations it inherited. Another batch of these should be sold in the coming months.

But PE's management consultancy operations are not being allowed to develop freely. Instead, they are being bent to suit Cray's dominant data communications business, so the group can offer a one-stop service from initial advice to hardware, software and installation. Besides, the group still has net cash since is paid for most of the acquisition in paper, so it is under no financial pressure to sell.

Cray should be able to produce a £25 million profit this year, with PE's second half contribution. While the shares at 20 times earnings are not a bargain, they do not deserve to become a victim of fashion.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Warm toast to Jim Butler

WHAT an exit for Jim Butler, now in his second week of retirement after stepping down as senior partner of KPMG Peat Marwick. Everyone from Lord Young of Graffham to John Kemp-Welch, chairman-elect of the Stock Exchange, made their way to the Merchant Taylors' Hall on Wednesday evening to toast his departure from the world of accountancy, and, perhaps, to bend the ear of Colin Sharman, his successor. Butler is off on an eight-day cruise in the Caribbean — not three months, as rumour had it — before flying on to Perth, Western Australia, to visit his daughter. Elsewhere in the Square Mile, Tom Brockbank, who co-founded Hill Samuel's smaller companies team in the 1980s, has resurfaced as chairman-designate of Computerised Financial Solutions (CFS), a specialist services company due to float on the USM towards the end of the month. J. Henry Schroder Wagg has recruited Michael Sutcliffe, Andrew Brandler and Alasdair Cleghorn to work on project finance and privatisations. Michael Templeman is to take over all tax matters at Schroders when Eric Henbrey retires in June. He joins from the Inland Revenue.

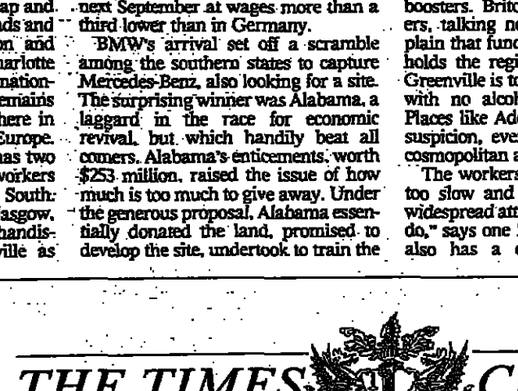
To the fore

THE Edinburgh financial establishment has been chuckling over this week's screening of a BBC2 programme on Scottish art, hosted by comedian Billy Connolly. Spotted among the great and good of Edinburgh at a rather carefully staged dinner party was Norman Lessels, chairman of Standard Life and a highly respected member of the Charlotte Square fraternity. How, one wonders, did he come to find himself discussing Scottish art among the black ties and Georgian candelabra? As one wag puts it: "He would have been more at home on the first tee at Muirfield than in some smart dinner discussing 18th century art in the New Town".

IBM move

IBM, the computer Goliath attempting to slim itself into a David without losing any original strength, is considering moving out of its sprawling headquarters in the landscaped grounds of rural suburbia, a commuter train ride from New York City. I M Pei, the renowned architect, grafted on a tasteful glass atrium — resembling a giant English Victorian summer house — to the original 1963 three-storey, 400,000 sq ft building from which directors once commanded the vast 406,000 army of IBM staff and assured them of a job for life. Half the staff have now taken redundancy, and the numbers at head office are 25 per cent slimmer. But IBM's head office is still rather flabby next to a lean group such as the US General Electric Company, which employs 900 key staff to command a workforce of 230,000. IBM, with about the same size staff, employs more than four times as many at head office.

THE stock market may be volatile, but this is ridiculous. Anyone looking up the LIT share price on Topic yesterday would note that the shares zoomed from an opening price of 7½p to a healthy 338p — an impressive gain by any standards. Sadly, it was too good to be true. Yesterday was the first day of dealings in the newly recapitalised Johnson Fry, which takes LIT's name.



Shoko shower

TAKING a shower in the morning is about to take on a new dimension. Fuji Shoko, a Japanese company, is selling an automated shower, designed to scrub lazy bathers from top to bottom in about eight minutes. In a human version of a car wash, the contraption begins with a warm-water shower and full body shampoo sprayed from nozzles, followed by a rinse to remove the suds and a cool, dry breeze to finish it off. The idea, say the makers, is to attract people who are too tired or lazy to bathe themselves — and it does not come cheap. The device costs $46,000.

Name game

FEELING public spirited, the *City Diary* has decided to help pools-to-hotel group Ladbroke in its quest for a new name. With Cyril Stein gone, John Jackson, the new chairman, and Peter George, chief executive, are believed to have hired image consultants to create a new corporate identity, and finding the right name to take the company forward will be all-important. To help out, we invite our readers to submit their choices to the *City Diary*, *1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN* by the end of January. A bottle of champagne for the most appropriate offering. The best our City staff has come up with so far include *Going for Broke*, *Ladsolvent*, and *Nein Stein*. Now over to you . . .

JON ASHWORTH

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Siemens to cut jobs as outlook on profit dims

■ Siemens is confident that the world electrical and electronics market will continue to be a growth market. Competitive pressures would remain strong, though

FROM COLIN NARBROUGH IN MUNICH

SIEMENS, Germany's technology champion and second-biggest industrial group, issued an unexpected profit warning, despite a strong first-quarter performance and a substantial profit in the year to September 30.

Karl-Hermann Daumann, the electronics giant's finance director, said he expected group net profit to be 10 to 15 per cent lower this year. Heinrich von Pierer, the management board chairman, said he foresaw a reduction of more than 10,000 jobs from the group's worldwide workforce of 400,000.

The Munich-based group, often described as a bank with an industrial arm attached, earned slightly less than two thirds of last year's net profit of DM1.98 billion from interest earnings and equity investments. Its pre-tax profit was 9 per cent down on the previous year's. Herr von Pierer said he expected the group to move "sideways" this year, despite a 2 per cent rise in net profit, to DM415 million, in the first quarter of the current financial year.

New orders surged 15 per cent, to DM21.4 billion, in the first quarter, but the growth came from outside Germany. New domestic orders dropped 6 per cent, to DM8.2 billion, while orders from abroad grew 33 per cent, to DM13.2 billion. Herr von Pierer emphasised that international business accounted for 62 per cent of Siemens's incoming orders, compared with little more than half last year.

He warned against reading too much into first-quarter performance, pointing out that a large part of the growth was attributable to consolidation of Osram Sylvania, Siemens's lighting subsidiary, and several big projects, including power plants in Malaysia and Russia.

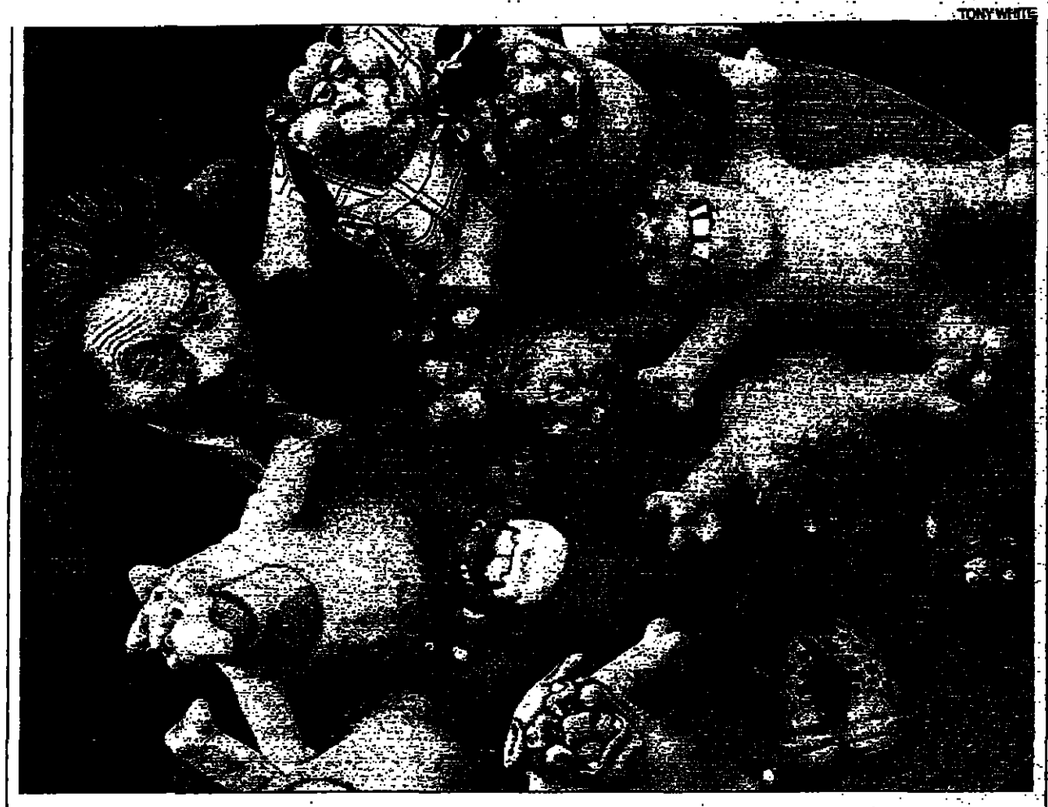
Global sales also showed up the gap between the strength of German demand and that from abroad. Domestic sales fell 11 per cent in the first quarter, to DM7.2 billion, while sales outside Germany surged 15 per cent, to DM10.1 billion. The group, which last month announced that it was to build Europe's biggest semiconductor plant in Dresden, Saxony, is maintaining its 1993 dividend at DM13.

Herr von Pierer said that net profit in the first quarter was up 2 per cent, at DM415 million; favourable capital market conditions had enabled the group to generate good financial income.



Von Pierer: 10,000 to go

TONY WHITE



Child's play: The Wombles of Wimbledon and Paddington Bear are set to be joined by new cartoon characters that even adults are said to find irresistible (Sarah Bagnall writes). Jim Driscoll, chairman at Storm Group, the USM-quoted animation, licensing and merchandising concern which holds the rights to Creatures of Delight, hopes the characters will win a cult following. Storm has agreed a $10 million deal with an American company, Action Media Group, for its subsidiary Kookanooga Toons to produce a TV series based on Creatures. The shares rose ½p to 18p.

Third bad day for HK index

SHARE prices on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange plunged yesterday for the third straight session in active trading.

The Hang Seng index took another big dive, falling 536.22 points, or 5 per cent, to close at 10,176.51. Brokers said the fall, following Wednesday's 443-point drop, was part of an exodus of funds from Southeast Asia.

Turnover rose to HK$9.248 billion (£797 million) from Wednesday's HK$7.778 billion . Brokers said investors were continuing to take profits following the market's sharp rise.

Sales race ahead for Sears and Body Shop

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

THE steady stream of upbeat Christmas trading statements from Britain's retailers continued yesterday as Sears, the Selfridges to Dolcis retail combine, and Body Shop, the environmentally conscious cosmetics group, both reported healthy advances in sales.

Sears said like-for-like sales in the six weeks to January 8 were up 7 per cent on last year. Selfridges was the star performer, and there were "satisfactory" advances by the rest of the group apart from the Adams childrenswear chain.

Paula Alexander, head of corporate affairs, said Adams had suffered from the renaissance at Mothercare and BhS, both owned by Storehouse, which reported a 13 per cent rise in Christmas trading.

Ms Alexander said the group had started its sales before Christmas for the first time in response to moves by other high street retailers, but she did not expect margins to suffer. However, she anticipated only modest growth this year as consumers began to feel the burden of tax rises.

Sales at Body Shop's British stores rose 6 per cent in the nine weeks to December 25. The strong performance in the run-up to Christmas helped lift sales growth for the year to date from 2 per cent to 4 per cent. However, like-for-like sales, were still 1 per cent lower than last year.

Like-for-like sales in America rose 10 per cent, while international retail sales, which includes Asia, continental Europe, Canada and Australia, rose 19 per cent.

Amber Day, the discount retailer now renamed the WEW Group, said underlying sales growth in the five months to December 31 was 4 per cent higher than last year. However, margins at What Everyone Wants were hit in December by increased competition and the need to clear stocks.

Cray decides against selling PE consultancy

CRAY Electronics, the data communication and systems group, is not selling the management consultancy arm of PE International, the computer group it bought last September. After a review and a 90-job cutback, Cray wants it to become a fourth division within the group. Cray's profits for the half-year to October 31 fell £10 million to £7.8 million. But the previous year's figures included a one-off £13 million gain from the sale of Malvern Instruments. Operating profits from continuing operations doubled to £9.6 million. The interim is lifted 50 per cent to 0.75p. Tempus, page 25

Drinks group boost

MATTHEW Clark the Stone's Ginger Wine and Strathmore bottled water group, is benefiting from the 75 per cent stake it bought last summer in Freetraders, the drinks wholesaler, for £12.8 million, followed by a £32 million buyout from Allied-Lyons of the Grants of St James's wine business. Pre-tax profits were up 42 per cent to £3.4 million in the half year to end-October. Interim dividend is raised to 7.25p (6.75p), from earnings of 16p (15.2p) a share.

Anglian Water post

ROBIN Gourlay, 54, currently chief executive and managing director of BP Nutrition, is to become deputy chairman of Anglian Water from February 1, it was announced. He has been a non-executive director of Anglian, based in Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, since last September. Mr Gourlay succeeds Francis Cator, 65, whose forthcoming retirement was announced last year. The shares yesterday rose from 559p to 566p.

JONES, STROUD HLDGS
Pre-tax: £2.92m (£3.29m)
EPS: 11.4p (12.32p)
Div: 3.5p (3.3p)
Interim results. Turnover climbed to £35.9m (£34.2m). Company said final dividend will be maintained on lower annual profits.

KELT ENERGY (Int)
Pre-tax: £3.24m
EPS: 1.8p (0.4p)
Div: Nil (nil)
Last time's profit was £829,000. Turnover grew to £18.2m (£8.91m). Daily production rose by 117% to 11,000 bpd during the period.

WYKO GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £333,000 loss
LPS: 1.19p (0.07p)
Div: Nil (0.5p)
There was profit of £121,000 last time. Turnover climbed to £30.4m (£28.9m). Better trading from continuing activities anticipated.

NEOTRONICS TECH (Fin)
Pre-tax: £2.33m (£3.03m)
EPS: 5.73p (7.65p)
Div: 1.75p, mkg 2.6p
Final results. Last time's total dividend was 2.6p. Turnover rose to £21.4m (£19.3m). Current year will see benefits from cost-cutting.

PWS HOLDINGS (Fin)
Pre-tax: £2.42m (£1.2m)
EPS: 6.8p (4.4p)
Div: 2.5p, mkg 4p (4p)
Turnover rose to £15.3m (£14.4m). The company anticipates that it will have another satisfactory year in 1994.

HOLLAS GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £254,000 loss
LPS: 0.5p (EPS: 0.3p)
Div: 0.3p (0.6p)
There was a profit of £255,000 last time. Total turnover fell to £12.7m (£15.9m). Non-recurring costs and exceptional costs of £750,000.

REAL TIME CONTROL (Int)
Pre-tax: £424,000
EPS: 4.1p (2.5p)
Div: Nil (nil)
Last time's profit was £258,000. Turnover from continuing operations up to £3.58m (£134,000). Strong full-year performance expected.

Court of Appeal — Law Report January 14 1994 — Chancery Division

Causation necessary to establish liability for breach

Galoo Ltd and Others v Bright Grahame Murray

Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Waite

[Judgment December 21]

The nature of the causation necessary to establish liability for breach of duty in contract or in tort was one of the most difficult areas of the law.

The "but for" test of causation was not sufficient and it was clear that if a breach of contract by a defendant was to be held to entitle a plaintiff to claim damages, it must first be held to be an effective or dominant cause of his loss.

In considering whether a breach of duty imposed upon a defendant, whether by contract or in tort in a situation analogous to a breach of contract, was the cause of the loss or merely the occasion for the loss, the court had to arrive at a decision on the basis of the application of common sense.

The Court of Appeal so stated in dismissing appeals by the plaintiffs, Galoo Ltd, Gamine Ltd and Hillsdown Holdings plc, and a cross-appeal by the defendants, Bright Grahame Murray, chartered accountants, from a decision on May 17, 1993 of Mr Ronald Walker, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, whereby he struck out claims by the first and second plaintiffs and part only of a claim by the third plaintiffs, alleging that the defendants were negligent and in breach of the duties owed to the plaintiffs.

Mr Hugh Bennett, QC and Mr Jonathan Acton Davis for the plaintiffs; Mr Ian Hunter, QC and Mr Graham Dunning for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that in 1987 Hillsdown Holdings plc purchased 51 per cent of the shares in Gamine Ltd, owners of all the shares in Galoo Ltd, and in 1991 purchased a further 44.3 per cent of those shares.

Hillsdown later claimed that the audited accounts of Galoo and Gamine for the years 1985 to 1989 and the draft audited accounts for 1990 contained substantial inaccuracies and that Bright Grahame Murray were negligent and in breach of duties owed to Galoo, Gamine and Hillsdown in auditing the accounts.

The plaintiffs appealed against the decision to strike out and the defendants cross-appealed against the decision not to strike out part of the claim by Hillsdown.

For the purpose of the appeal all the allegations in the statement of claim had to be assumed to be true.

A head of damage claimed by Galoo and Gamine was that they incurred trading losses of £25 million between 1986 and 1990, including a dividend payment of £500,000 made by Galoo in 1988, as a result of relying on the negligent auditing and thus continued to trade when they would not otherwise have done and therefore that the trading losses and the loss caused by the dividend payment were caused by the breach of duty by the defendants.

That argument depended upon the nature of the causation necessary to establish liability for breach of duty, whether in contract or in tort and there was no doubt that it was one of the most difficult areas of the law.

For the defendants, it was submitted that the plaintiffs' case depended upon the adoption of the "but for" test of causation which, at least in contract, was not the proper test in English law.

The court had been referred to two Australian cases, *Alexander v Cambridge Credit Corporation* ((1987) 9 NSWLR 310) and *March v Stramare* ((1991) 171 CLR 506). In the first of those the auditors of the defendant company failed to note in their annual audit certificate in 1971 that the balance sheets did not show provisions which should have been made. By a majority the Court of Appeal held that there was no causal connection between the breach of contract and the damage.

At p334 Mr Justice Mahoney had said: "... the company's loss resulted from the defendants' breach in the sense that the course of events *vis-à-vis* the company would have gone in a different direction had it not been for that breach. But that, I think, is not, or not necessarily sufficient.

"Thus the breach allowed the company to continue in business. If its net worth had fallen because, for example, the main buildings it owned had been destroyed by an earthquake, I do not think that loss would have been causally related to the breach which let the company continue in business ...

"To allow the company to continue in existence is, in a sense, to expose it to all the dangers of being in existence. But allowing the company to remain in existence does not, without more, cause losses from anything which is, in that sense, a danger incident to existing.

"There are some dangers loss from which will raise causal considerations and some will not. But the company's case has been conducted on the basis that there is not to be ... a detailed examination of what particular things caused the fall in the net value of this company ... and the nature for this purpose of them."

At p339 Mr Justice McHugh had said: "The existence of a company, as counsel for Cambridge conceded, cannot be a cause of its trading losses or profits. Yet that is what the case for Cambridge comes to.

"Except in the sense that the issue of the certificates induced the trustee not to take action against Cambridge and thereby permitted Cambridge to exist as a trader, the issuing of the certificates was not one of the conditions which were jointly necessary to produce the loss of $145m. To assert in these circumstances that the issue of the certificates was a cause of the loss in my opinion is to depart from the common sense notion of causation which the common law champions."

The speeches in the House of Lords in *Monarch Steamship Co Ltd v Karlshamns Oljefabriker A/B* ([1949] AC 196) made it clear that if a breach of contract by a defendant was to be held to entitle the plaintiff to claim damages, it must first be held to be an effective or dominant cause of his loss.

The test in *Quinn v Burch Bros (Builders) Ltd* ([1966] 2 QB 370) that it was necessary to distinguish between a breach of contract which caused a loss to the plaintiff and one which merely gave the opportunity for him to sustain the loss, was helpful but still left the question to be answered of how the court decided whether the breach of duty was the cause of the loss or merely the occasion for the loss.

The answer was supplied by the Australian decisions, which his Lordship held to represent the law of England, in relation to a breach of duty imposed on a defendant whether by contract or in tort in a situation analogous to a breach of contract. The answer in the end was by the application of the court's common sense.

The breach of duty by the defendants gave the opportunity to Galoo and Gamine to continue to incur trading losses; it did not cause those trading losses, in the sense in which the word "cause" was used in law.

Lord Justice Evans delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Waite agreed with Lord Justice Glidewell.

Solicitors: Biddle & Co; Edwin Coe.

Jurisdiction to order video link evidence

Regina v Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Bennett (No 3)

In an action begun by originating summons the court had jurisdiction to order that evidence from witnesses living abroad be given by live video link.

Lord Justice Henry so held in the Queen's Bench Division on January 13, allowing an application by Paul James Bennett for an order to allow, *inter alia*, cross-examination of witnesses living in South Africa by means of a live video link (see also *The Times* June 25, 1993; [1993] 3 WLR 90 and *The Times* November 26, 1993).

HIS LORDSHIP said that the source of the court's power was in Order 38, rule 2(3) of the Rules of the Supreme Court and in the broad words of Order 38, rule 3. Such a method of giving evidence was, subject to the proper safeguards, an effective one and cheaper and more efficient than bringing the witnesses to England.

Plaintiff's duty on interim relief

Hong Kong Toy Centre Ltd v Tomy UK Ltd

Before Mr Justice Aldous

[Judgment December 15]

A plaintiff who had, pending the hearing of a motion, obtained *ex parte* interlocutory relief, was under an obligation to apply to the court for the earliest appropriate date for that hearing. If he delayed that application inexcusably and inordinately the court would ordinarily dismiss his motion.

Mr Justice Aldous so held in the Chancery Division, in dismissing a motion by the plaintiff, a subsidiary of a Japanese company, for interlocutory relief in an action against the defendant seeking, *inter alia*, a declaration that the defendant's threats of proceedings for infringement of UK Patent No 2,212,648 were unjustifiable and an enquiry as to damages occasioned thereby.

Mr Richard H. Miller for the *plaintiff*; Mr David Young, QC, for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE ALDOUS said that the action arose out of a notice published at the Harrogate Toy Fair on January 9, 1993 which the plaintiff believed actionable under section 70 of the Patents Act 1977.

Fearing that a similar notice might be published at the next exhibition it sought undertakings from the defendant. None being given, on January 29 it had applied to his Lordship, *ex parte*, but on notice, for an injunction restraining the defendant from so doing, and had duly obtained, on usual terms, such an order until the hearing of the plaintiff's motion on February 2, 1993 or until further order.

On that date, the defendant gave certain undertakings until the hearing of the motion, which was stood over to come on as a motion by order to be heard not earlier than March 22, his Lordship having ordered that the plaintiff's evidence be completed by February 5, the defendant's by February 26, and the plaintiff's, in rely, by March 19.

It must have been clear to the parties, since fixtures for such *motions had to be arranged* weeks in advance, that an approach should have been made to the listing clerk before March 19. But no attempt was made until October 28 with the result that the motion had come on for hearing nearly 11 months after the making of the *ex parte* application. But for that inordinate delay, the action itself might have been heard in December.

By their nature, *ex parte* orders should only be made for a limited period, until the matter could be *fully* considered. Therefore a plaintiff who got such an order was not entitled to sit back and let things drift. Having got interlocutory relief, he had a particular duty to push proceedings forward to the appropriate hearing.

Save in exceptional circumstances, it was right that inexcusable and inordinate delay in carrying out that duty should be visited with dismissal of the motion.

The plaintiff had urged that the delay between July and the end of October was excusable because it had been reasonable to await the defendant's reply to a proposal to stand the motion over to trial before fixing a date. His Lordship did not agree. The defendant had already given every indication that that proposal would be rejected.

That did not mean that the plaintiff could not succeed at the trial of the action and then obtain injunctive relief and damages, nor even that another notice of motion could not in appropriate circumstances be issued. The plaintiff's motion would be dismissed, but leave to appeal would be given, for guidance from the Court of Appeal.

Solicitors: Jaques & Lewis; D. Martin & Co, Tunbridge Wells.

Declaration of oral trust valid

Hunter v Moss

An oral declaration of trust of 50 shares out of a total of 950 was not void for uncertainty when the shares were of such a nature as to be indistinguishable one from another and were all equally capable of satisfying the trust.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Mann and Lord Justice Hirst) so held on December 21 in dismissing an appeal brought by the defendant, Robert Joseph Moss, against the decision of Mr Colin Rimer, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge of the Chancery Division ([1993] 1 WLR 934) that the defendant was a trustee of 50 shares for the plaintiff, David Morris Hunter, in the issued share capital of a company, Moss Electrical Company Ltd, to which the plaintiff had become absolutely beneficially entitled.

Corrections

In *Ruxley Electronics and Construction Ltd v Forsyth; Laddingford Enclosures Ltd v Same* (*The Times* January 7) the instructing solicitors for Mr Forsyth were Brook Martin & Co and for the plaintiffs, Woolley Bevis & Diplock, Brighton.

In *Beoco Ltd v Alfa Laval Co Ltd and Another* (*The Times* January 12) Mr Timothy Stow, QC and Miss Freya Newbery, instructed by Davies Arnold Cooper, appeared for Alfa Laval, the first defendant. Mr Brian Knight, QC and Mr Thomas Weitzman, instructed by Herbert Smith, appeared for Beoco, the plaintiff.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF AVC TECHNICAL SERVICES GROUP LIMITED B&C PROPERTIES (MANAGEMENT) LIMITED HOUSE AGENT HOLDINGS LIMITED APPRAISAL & VALUATION CONSULTANTS LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that Stephen James Lister Adamson and Gareth Howard Hughes of Street & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named companies by the members and creditors on 7 January 1994.
Dated 7th January 1994
G H Hughes, Joint Liquidator
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
AVC TECHNICAL SERVICES GROUP LIMITED
B&C PROPERTIES (MANAGEMENT) LIMITED
HOUSE AGENT HOLDINGS LIMITED
APPRAISAL & VALUATION CONSULTANTS LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above-named companies are required, on or before the 11th February 1994 to send their names, addresses and particulars of their claims, including any claim to preference, to the undersigned Stephen James Lister Adamson or Gareth Howard Hughes, Liquidators of the above named companies, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before any such claim is proved.
Dated 7th January 1994
G H Hughes
S.J.L. Adamson, Joint Liquidators.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
THAMES VALLEY CREATIVE HOMES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 31st January 1994 at 4, Chesterton Square, London EC1M 6DX at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA, of 4, Chesterton Square, London, EC1M 6DX is nominated to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.
DATED this 7th day of January 1994.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
J. DEVANEY, DIRECTOR.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION NO 0010650 OF 1993
IN THE MATTER OF ADD HOLDINGS LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 7th December 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of capital of the above-named Company from £3,110,836 to £810,936.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard on the 2nd day of February 1994.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 14th day of January 1994.
Martineau Johnson of St Philips House, St Philips Place, Birmingham, B3 2PP
Solicitors for the above-named Company
Tel No: 021 200 3300
Our Ref: JJM/MDN

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
DICK SMITH (MANUFACTURING) LIMITED
IN LIQUIDATION
NOTICE is hereby given that Rupert Graham Mullins of BDO Binder Hamlyn was appointed Liquidator of the above company on 30 December 1993.
Creditors are required to send their names and addresses and particulars of their claims to the Liquidator on or before 28 February 1994 and if so required by notice in writing from the Liquidator, personally or by their solicitor to come in and prove their debts at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or to be thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 7 day of January 1994
R.C Mullins, Liquidator.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
CLANPARK (130 LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 4th February 1994 at The Old Bakery, Lower Gower Road, Rogiet, Herts. at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA, of 4, Chesterton Square, London, EC1M 6DX is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.
DATED this 7 day of January 1994
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
R.R. WARD, DIRECTOR.

No. 0010389/93
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF FIRSTPOINT LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 29th November 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £23,729,118 to £18,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday, 26th January 1994.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED the 14th day of January 1994
HORSEBY SMITH
Exchange House Primrose Street London EC2A 2HS
Solicitors for the above-named Company.

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF:
1 YELHAM LIMITED
GUERNSEY COUNTRY PUBLISHING LIMITED
Company No: 01961607
2 SECRETARIAL REALISATIONS LIMITED (FORMERLY VIDEO TRADE WEEKLY LIMITED)
Company No: 02016419
3 INDUSTRIAL SECRETARIES (INTERNATIONAL) LIMITED
Company No: 00930973
4 TRADE SECRETARIES PUBLISHING LIMITED
Company No: 01955637
5 MBC INFORMATION SERVICES LIMITED
Company No: 02388684
6 PUBLIC MASTER (PUBLISHING) LIMITED
Company No: 01004282
7 WATERLOW DIRECTORIES LIMITED
Company No: 00229726
8 MBC EXHIBITIONS LIMITED
Company No: 02392240
9 MEDIA WEEK LIMITED
Company No: 01934761
10 MAXWELL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED
Company No: 00873782
11 PATEY DOYLE (PUBLISHING) LIMITED
Company No: 01282567
(ALL IN CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
The liquidators of the above companies give notice under the provisions of Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that they intend to make an interim dividend to the creditors of the companies on 4 February 1994.
Creditors who have not already done so, must send details in writing, of any claim against the companies to the liquidators Alan Barnett and Tracey Lawrence Price Waterhouse at No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL by 3 February 1994 which is the last day for admitting claims. A creditor who does not make a claim by that date will not be included in the proposed interim distribution.
11 January 1994
A V Lomax, Joint Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION No. 0010618 of 1993
IN THE MATTER OF STENA (130 LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 1st December presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £69,035,001 to £9,902,300.10.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr. Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2 on Wednesday 26th January 1994
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose
A COPY of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED the 14th day of January 1994
NORTON ROSE PO Box 570 Blackfriars Bridge 3 19 New Bridge Street London EC4V 6DH
Solicitors for the Company
Ref: AJOES/ES/VI.41789

PUBLIC NOTICES

JANE ETHEL GRIFFITHS SPINSTER
LATE OF: The Shrubbery Rest Home Wood Green Road, Wednesbury, West Midlands
DIED AT: The Shrubbery Rest Home, Wood Green Road, Wednesbury, West Midlands.
ON THE: 27th day of November 1989
Estate about £12,000.00
All of the above named are requested to apply to Messrs. Rees Pegg, Solicitors of 30/34, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1DN.

BIDDONS the Rev : MARY DOROTHY SEDDON the former widow late of Weymouth, Dorset, died there on the 26th November 1991
(Unidisposed of Assets about £17,000)
The life of the above-named are requested to apply to Messrs. Hopewell & Sedden, Solicitors of 23 Trinity Road, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 8TN.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE ALL YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS PLEASE CALL DEBRA GYNN
TEL: 071-782 7344
or
FAX: 071-481 9313

Futures depress leading shares

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 4. Dealings end today. §Contango day Monday. Settlement day January 24. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
524	345	Abbey Ntl	507	+21	11.8	2.9	19.5
314	179	Allied Irish	307	-1	...	3.4	15.7
226½	130	Aus New Z	224	+2	...	4.1	∞
3806¼	2712½	Bankamerica	3162½	-12½	...	...	...
319	177	Bk of Ireland	312	-6	...	4.0	23.0
375	225	Bk Leumi UK	375	...	17.0	5.7	...
240½	116½	Bank Scotland	221	+2½	4.6	2.6	30.0
652	362	Barclays	594	-5	...	2.6	...
39½	15½	Carlisle	33½	+3½	...	...	...
625	395	Cater Allen	603	...	28.0	3.6	...
177	85	Cattles	175	...	...	3.2	23.3
2487½	1787½	Chase Manh	2287½	-9½	...	...	...
2600	1343½	Citicorp	2575	...	...	...	...
545	250	Close Bros	544	...	...	2.5	19.8
£135	9275	Commerzbk	£147½	-162½	...	2.7	...
£348¼	6250¼	Deutsche Bk	£326	-162½	...	1.9	...
95	45	First Nat Fin	72½	+1½	1.5	2.6	∞
1651	876	Fuji Bank Y	1401	...	...	...	...
520	343	Gerrard Nat	495	...	...	0.4	...
987	490	HSBC	882	...	21.5	3.5	12.9
1007	474	HSBC HK	895	-9	20.0	2.8	21.1
403	243	Hambros	403	-9	20.0	2.8	21.4
433	313	Joseph (L)	428	+3	14.3	4.4	18.6
155	96	King Shaxson	135	...	16.7	4.9	...
607	312	Kleinwort Ben	607	...	9.0	8.3	...
600	492	Lloyds	627	+1	10.7	3.4	22.0
118	83	Lon Scot Bk	96	+9	19.1	3.8	17.9
579	322	Nat Aust Bk	579	+21	2.9	3.8	19.0
634	398	Nat West	582	-3	17.8	3.0	∞
484	270	Provident	484	+11	12.4	3.8	35.4
64	39	Rea Bros	64	...	0.5	3.2	22.0
470	207	Ryl Bk Scot	449	-3	...	1.3	68.0
1373	487½	Schroders	1365	...	...	3.1	20.3
1263	576	Stand Chart	1154	-7	20.5	1.1	27.2
272½	145½	TSB	267	+15	...	2.3	...
190	78	Union Disc	166	...	...	3.7	20.7
974	529	Warburg SG	945	-9	...	2.6	13.8
8831¼	4843¾	Wells Fargo	8825	+12½	...	2.3	...
215	121	Westpac	215	+2	...	2.5	∞
325	188	Wintrust	314	...	9.3	3.7	28.1

BREWERIES

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
697	517	Allied-Lyons	647	-14	...	4.1	17.9
647	441	Bass	560	+5	...	4.4	15.2
299	189	Boddington	277	...	7.5	3.4	16.1
459	362	Bulmer (HP)	396 †	+2	...	3.3	15.9
184	129	Burtonwd Brw	181	...	4.7	3.3	15.1
166	75	Eldridge P 'A'	166 †	+6	...	2.7	∞
70½	50	Fosters Brewing	62	-1	...	4.4	∞
442	338	Fullr Sm 'A'	442 †	+1	7.5	2.1	18.9
490	373	Grand Met	483	-1½	...	3.4	19.5
475	347	Greenalls Grp	469 †	+10	...	3.3	16.1
575	505	Greene King	545 †	...	...	2.9	15.3
521	388	Guinness	499	-5	...	3.2	17.9
281	230	Hardy Hanson	248	+7	8.5	4.4	∞
138	105	Heavitree	136	...	3.0	2.8	32.2
383	255	Highland Distl	383	+10	...	2.2	19.9
3150	2538	Holt J	3150	...	42.0	1.7	20.5
75	31	Halkin Hldgs	73 †	...	...	...	57.0
323	250	Invrgordn Dist	301	...	...	2.9	17.2
186	118	Macallan-Glen	128	+1	4.3	4.3	28.7
465	365	Mrcdn Martn 'A'	435	...	...	2.5	20.7
246	164	Mansfield	236	...	...	2.1	16.9
299	231	Mrston Thmp	276	+4	...	2.5	15.4
588	389	Matthew Clark	588	+8	...	3.9	19.4
300	210	Mrrydwn W	235	...	7.0	3.8	20.8
580	455	Morland	530	+5	...	2.3	18.2
12	6½	Paramount	10½	...	...	1.8	∞
227	145	Regent Inns	225	...	...	2.5	22.0
1521	753	SA Breweries	1362	-89	...	2.0	22.5
559	393	Scot & New	559 †	+15	...	3.8	17.1
225	155½	Taunton Cider	168	+1	6.2	4.7	13.1
283	213	Vaux Group	279 †	+6	9.5	4.3	∞
381	225	Wetherspoon JD	368	-9	...	1.8	28.6
592	435	Whitbread 'A'	561	-4	...	4.0	13.5
613	463	Wolvrhmptn D	548	+23	12.6	2.9	∞
515	475	Young 'A'	515	...	14.7	3.6	21.3

BUILDING, ROADS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
183	73	Abbey	183	...	...	1.4	29.7
25½	12	Albrighton	18 †	...	...	0.7	...
160	87	Allen	160	+10	...	3.9	36.3
132	65	Amec	122	+2	3.0	3.1	22.6
12	4	Anglia Sec	9½	...	...	...	...
354	150	Ashtead	283	...	...	1.6	37.3
143	101	Anwoods	131	...	...	4.8	...
360	180	BPB Ind	331	-4	...	2.9	39.6
105	57	Baggeridge Brk	104 †	-1	3.1	3.8	∞
32	18	Bailey (Ben) Con	32	...	0.6	2.3	...
108	74	Barcon	77 †	+5	3.0	4.9	∞
56½	32½	Bardon	50	...	2.0	5.0	24.6
242	94	Barratt Devs	234	-2	4.0	2.1	∞
502	305	Bellway	501	...	12.0	3.0	∞
54	15	Bellwinch	54	...	...	...	...
542	289½	Berkeley Gp	530 †	...	...	1.5	28.6
118	45	Bett Bros	118	...	...	2.1	15.2
68	36	Blockleys	61	...	1.0	2.0	67.4
363	199	Blue Circle	363	+12	...	3.9	...
286	230	Boot (Henry)	284	+2	6.0	2.6	15.9
106	78	Breedon PLC	104	...	4.6	5.5	25.6
133	82	Br Dredging	133	...	5.2	4.9	28.5
86	45	Brit Fittings	80	...	1.7	2.7	...
175	99	Bryant	175	...	...	3.4	33.3
138	53	CALA	136	-2	...	2.1	...
376	200	CRH	374	...	...	2.3	20.5
43	18	Cakebread Rby	35	...	...	...	...
41½	21	Costain	30	...	...	...	...
173	86½	Countryside	165	-2	...	3.2	∞
105	38	Crest Nicholson	103	...	0.0	...	...
115	27	Cussins	111	...	...	1.1	...
25	15	Edmond Hldgs	21	+1	0.3	1.6	...
285	178	Epwin	276	...	7.0	3.2	23.6
59	32	Erith	58	...	0.3	0.8	...
506	252	Eve Group	458	+10	...	2.8	17.2
200	97	Freeman Gp	198	...	...	3.2	32.5
50	38	Galliford	48	...	...	2.6	...
87	52	Gibbs & Dandy	87	...	...	2.9	...
923	695	Gleeson (MJ)	913	...	...	1.7	15.9
152	75	Hewden-Stuart	152 †	+1	...	2.2	32.5
51	28	Hewetson	47	...	...	3.4	34.3
430	173	Heywd Wm	426	-1	13.0	3.8	...
142	37	Higgs & Hill	138	...	2.3	2.3	...
38	26	How Gp	30	+2	...	4.7	...
36	15	Howard Hldgs	36	...	0.5	2.4	...
86	39	Ibstock-Johnsen	84	-2	1.0	1.5	...
25	12½	Jarvis	16½	...	...	...	...
328	196	Laing (J)	327	+3	10.0	3.4	13.1
128½	103	-do- 8.4% Cv Pf	128½	+2½	...	6.2	...
135	58	Ln Clydesdale	128	...	...	...	...
23	10	Lovell (YJ)	12½	...	...	...	...
400	240	Manders	398	+2	9.3	2.9	24.4
199	93	Marley	195	-2	4.2	2.7	37.2
159	61	Marshalls	131 †	-2	...	3.8	...
238	122	Maunders (J)	223	...	...	...	...
284	98	Mcalpine (A)	284	+1	6.5	3.1	45.2
37	22	McCarthy & S	37	-2	0.5	2.1	...
549	272	Meyer Int	535	-4	...	2.3	33.6
145	62	Mowlem (J)	144	-1	4.0	3.5	...
184	51	NSM	172	+4	...	...	...
53	48	Needler	48	...	...	3.7	22.4
183	106	Newman Tnks	183	+4	...	4.6	24.4
322	197	Persimmon	322	+3	8.6	3.3	32.9
26	9	Phoenix Timber	14	+½	...	...	...
1750	1237½	Pochins	1750	...	20.0	2.1	25.0
198	80	Prowting	186	...	8.4	2.1	...
1017	555	RMC Gp	1010	+2	...	2.5	37.9
117	75½	Raine Ind	96	-½	...	3.0	22.7
36	18	Ransus	23	-2	...	...	...
611	402	Redland	595	-8	25.0	5.3	34.0
86	64	Roskel	72	-2	4.3	7.5	10.6
342	207	Rugby Group	323	-5	6.4	2.5	24.7
64	23	Svrild-Ives	58	...	...	0.5	...
165	68	Sharpe & Fisher	165	...	...	3.0	28.7
276	86½	Sheffield Inst	255	-2	...	2.4	62.6
258	82	Sheriff Hldgs	258 †	...	...	1.8	∞
165	66	Sharna	106	...	...	0.1	24.4
240	196	Smart (J)	228	...	...	4.7	17.2
6½	1½	Starmin	3¼	+¼	...	...	...
195	100	Tarmac	184	+3	5.5	3.7	...
214	131	Tay Homes	213	...	...	3.4	26.3
166	63	Taylor Woodrw	158	-3	1.0	0.8	...
643	433	Tilbury Dougls	643	...	33.0	6.4	20.9
43	19	Torex Hire	42	...	...	1.2	...
325	168	Travis Perkins	325	+10	8.0	3.1	37.2
21	5½	Trencherwood	16½	...	...	...	...
40	25	Try Group	32	...	1.0	3.9	9.1
23	21	Tudor	21	...	...	1.5	...
101	41	Vibroplant	100	-½	2.5	3.1	36.0
65	20	Ward Hldgs	53	...	...	...	...
36	25	Waterhouse	33	...	...	...	...
475	360	Watts Blake	455	...	...	3.3	19.6
23	6½	Wescol	23	...	...	...	...
203	90	Westbury	203	...	5.0	3.1	31.7
4½	3	Wiggins	4½	...	...	...	...
512	362	Wilson Bowdn	506	-1	...	2.3	35.6
232	147	Wilson (C)	227	+2	3.9	2.2	39.3
304	104	Wimpey G	204	+12	...	3.2	...
47	15	YBM	28	-1	0.5	2.2	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	463	ADT	618	+3	...	...	...
318	198	Adam & Harvey	318	+5	13.0	5.1	5.8
92	56	Air London	68	...	...	6.4	12.1
56	37	African Lakes	44	...	2.0	5.7	...
178	93	Auto Sec	137	-1	...	5.6	24.6
154½	84	BET Ord	149½	-1	...	1.9	6.0
133	41	BNB Res	133	...	4.9	4.6	...
318	183	BPP	345	...	8.3	4.2	13.5
178	154	BSM	158	+3	...	4.6	13.9
285	195	Barbour Index	235	...	8.0	4.3	16.0
28	15	Boustead	22	...	0.7	4.0	...
269	184	Brit Data Mgt	206	...	4.7	2.9	15.0
26	11	Broadcastle	22	...	...	1.4	17.5
73	48	Brooks Service	59	...	...	1.1	...
109	86	CRT Gp	107	...	...	3.4	18.8
240	139½	Capita Group	217	...	...	1.3	39.9
57	31	Caskett Plc	51½	-½	...	2.2	19.8
55	18½	Chiltern Capital	23	...	...	...	...
70	26	Christie	63	...	...	...	...
384	228	Chubb Sec	381	+1	...	1.2	23.7
116	90	Comar	112	+1	...	1.7	29.2
44	8½	Corp Services	42	...	...	...	...
91	20	Coutts Cnslg	85	...	...	...	...
179	50	Darr	160	-1	3.3	2.6	21.7
256	198	Davis Service	250	...	...	4.0	18.8
134	85	EW Facta	122	+3	4.4	4.6	14.0
32	11	Gardiner	28½	+½	0.4	2.0	18.4
305	215	Hays	305	...	...	2.2	26.6
264	174	Hogg Robinsn	264	+1	...	3.2	19.2
70	34	Holmes Protectn	36	...	...	...	2.2
344	127	Hurch Whamp	277	-3	...	1.7	22.9
2175	975	ISS B DKr	2100	...	...	1.0	14.5
637	475	Inchcape	567	+1	...	3.2	17.8
888	669	Johnson Clean	888	+5	25.7	3.6	19.4
12	2½	Lep	6½	...	...	...	...
297	173	Mitie Gp	297	+3	3.5	1.5	23.1
1214	893	Manpower	1200	-2	...	...	...
68½	40½	Michael Page	68½	+1	1.8	3.3	29.1
279	115	Penna	115	...	...	8.7	4.3
4½	2	Prime People	4	+½	...	...	...
142	57	Prosdtoot Alex	64	...	...	29.3	3.5
423	337	RCO	359	-1	14.1	4.9	12.3
118	86	REA	105	...	2.0	2.4	...
121	43	Reed Executive	120	...	...	...	...
156	105	Reliance Sec	115	...	...	4.9	24.7
255	178	Rentokil	244	-1	2.5	1.3	30.4
340	220	Rolfe & Nolan	340	...	...	2.7	23.3
399	319	Salvesen (C)	354½	+9½	...	2.8	33.5
51	26	Scott Pickford	49	...	...	2.0	15.6
10	5	Select Apps	9½	...	...	...	...
1313	605	Serco Gp	1313	+10	13.3	1.3	36.3
352	83	Sherwd Cmp	110	...	...	8.0	3.2
130	90	Sketchley	102	...	...	3.7	23.3
355	310	Warner Howrd	327	...	6.6	2.5	17.1
45	27	Welpac	27	...	...	...	...
28	14	Wills Gp	27	...	...	1.0	18.9

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
248	210	Allied Colloids	234	-3	...	2.3	21.5
1041	613	Amersham	991	-8	...	1.8	28.5
7	1½	Anglo Utd	3½	...	...	...	...
£119½	8325	BASF DM	£116	...	...	8.7	...
390	199	BTP	390	+1	...	3.5	27.2
£143½	£101½	Bayer DM50	£138½	-3½	...	3.9	...
178	105	Blagden	145	-1	6.5	5.6	15.8
165	93	Brent Chems	121	-5	...	7.6	11.7
500	340	Br Bio-Tech	348	...	...	...	...
20	5	Caird Gp	9½	...	...	22.2	16.0
180	126	Canning (W)	172	+2	7.2	5.3	19.7
608	421	Courtaulds	508	-3	...	3.5	12.7
354	228	Croda	354	+2	...	2.8	20.3
149	103	Doeflex	117	...	4.6	4.9	9.0
254	175	Ellis & Everard	254	+4	...	3.6	24.0
42½	15½	Euro Colour	35½	...	0.8	3.1	17.0
351	299	Halstead (J)	348	-2	...	2.3	17.2
241	150	Hickson	177	-1	...	5.6	16.4
£123½	8890	Hoechst	£116½	-25	...	3.1	...
220	157	Holliday Chem	185	...	...	2.5	17.0
805	608	ICI	760	-7	...	4.5	...
770	570	Laporte	769	+3	18.9	3.2	21.2
230	181	Leigh	217	+4	...	4.5	19.1
97½	35	MTM	53	...	...	...	...
2125	1462½	Norsk Hydro	2112½	-9½	...	1.3	20.1
470	370	Paterson Zoch	468	...	...	3.4	15.8
425	360	-do- 'A'	423	...	...	3.7	14.3
296	193	Plysu	221 †	-1	...	4.0	18.8
303	173	Porvair	272½	...	3.8	1.7	29.1
70	35	Sutcliffe Speak	55	...	...	...	...
485	412	Wardle Storeys	455	...	...	4.2	21.0
580	398	Wolstenholme R	580	+5	17.0	3.7	19.8
495	330	Yorks Chem	425	+3	...	2.3	22.8
300	233	Yule Catto	268	...	...	2.6	17.9
869	593	Zeneca	825	-17½	...	4.2	48.7

DRAPERY, STORES

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
102	53	Alexon	63	-1	...	6.0	...
233	173	Allders	233	+4	...	3.3	17.4
87	42	Amber Day	64	+1	1.3	2.6	∞
410	257	Argos Plc	376	+6	...	2.4	22.3
25	8	Ashley Group	9	...	...	2.6	...
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	81	-1	0.1	0.2	...
330	278	Asprey	320	+2	5.2	2.1	20.6
195	94	Austin Reed	186	-1	...	1.7	...
155	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	153	-3	...	5.0	15.4
140	94	Bentalls	135	...	1.9	1.8	...
278	125	Betterware	132	-1	...	2.0	15.0
47	22	Blacks Leis	37	...	2.2	7.6	...
246	133	Body Shop	242	+8	...	0.9	31.2
16½	9	Brown & Jacksn	9½	-2½	...	1.1	4.0
434	318	Brown (N)	431	+5	...	2.1	23.3
87½	60½	Burton	67½	+2	...	3.8	...
205	126	Carsons	205	...	...	2.4	28.6
440	286	Church	440	...	12.5	3.6	39.2
183	97	Clinton Cards	166	+1	4.3	3.3	20.0
280½	212	Coats Viyella	264	...	...	3.6	36.5
120	78	Colmrvision	118	...	5.6	5.9	21.2
181	154	Cty Casuals	168	...	...	3.1	15.6
935	394	Courts Furnish	900	...	5.6	0.0	11.3
155	115	Crown Eyes	135	...	...	6.0	10.6
137	88	Dalry Farm Intl	118	-2	...	3.1	17.3
99½	51½	Dewhirst (II)	99½	...	0.8	1.0	31.9
265	199	Dixons Grp	231	-2	...	3.4	...
21	8	EBA Gp	9	...	...	...	73.8
520	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	520	...	16.0	3.8	18.2
244	71	Essex Furn	230	...	...	2.0	35.2
273	203	Etam	254	...	7.0	3.4	23.3
608	499	Fine Art Dev	522	+6	13.0	3.1	17.0
78	26	Fired Earth Tiles	47	...	...	...	...
695	498	Forminster	695 †	...	14.5	2.6	12.6
180	34	French Conn	126	...	...	...	...
74	43	Gent SR	67	...	...	...	...
100	23	Goldsmiths Gp	88	-2	...	3.9	20.8
659	394	GUS	603	-3	0.3	0.4	...
40	21	Hampden Grp	23	+10½	...	2.6	18.5
277	30	Hartstone	64	+2	...	5.4	17.4
33½	20	Helene Plc	31	-3	...	...	...
108	29	Heritage	108	...	2.0	8.1	14.6
86	35	Honeysuckle	86	...	...	3.6	∞
211	63	Jacques Vert	202	...	...	2.2	15.4
785	496	Kingfisher	733	+8	...	2.4	25.2
76	62½	Leslie Wise Gp	74	-1	4.0	6.8	15.3
685	495	Liberty	538	...	7.2	1.7	63.3
380	261	Lloyds Chem	359	+2	...	2.5	12.6
176	120	MFI	174	+9	...	2.7	30.6
461½	311	Marks Spencer	443½	-3	...	2.4	22.7
589	445	Menzies (John)	588	...	...	2.3	16.7
274	135	Moss Bros	268	...	5.5	2.6	31.5
240	139½	Next	227	+3	3.5	1.9	27.1
41	15	Oliver (G)	40	...	...	...	...
325	197	Ottform Intl	318	+1	...	3.9	15.4
65	24	Pennys	36	...	0.8	2.8	7.5
313	185	QS Hldgs	245	...	5.1	2.6	17.4
69½	20½	Raine Grp	45	...	...	...	...
190	120	Rosebys	190	...	...	3.2	22.8
181	135	Sherwood Gp	161	+2	...	2.0	14.5
131½	93	Sears	123	...	...	3.6	...
43½	17	Signet Group	31½	+1½	...	...	...
530	400	Smith WH 'A'	511	-1	...	3.5	16.7
122	83	-do- B	121	...	...	2.9	19.8
20	4½	Specialeyes	14	...	...	...	...
252	176	Storehouse	238 †	...	...	2.6	23.5
191	146	T & S Stores	154	...	6.0	4.9	11.5
162	71	Tie Rack	160	...	1.0	0.8	26.2
255	160	Time Products	254	...	2.7	3.8	21.9
128	63	Usher (Frank)	120	+2	...	6.3	10.4
427	302	Vendome	427	+1	...	1.8	19.9
45	27	Vmt	37	...	1.0	3.4	11.5
48	34	Wassums	47	...	...	5.0	...
120	76	Wickes	112	...	...	0.2	50.9
78	45	Wld of Leather	62	+3	...	...	...
195½	142	Wyevale	187	...	...	2.9	24.7
4	2½	Xtra-vision	2½	...	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
187	134	ACT Group	151	...	...	4.1	15.2
275	223	Acal	263	...	...	3.1	18.9
490	385	Admiral	488	...	5.7	1.5	20.6
171	104	Alba	171	...	...	3.6	19.5
50	19½	Alphameric	34	...	...	...	...
55	22	Amstrad	44	...	0.5	1.4	∞
128	61	App Holo	83	...	...	...	...
43	9½	Arlen	34	...	...	...	...
88	39½	Astec	87½	+2½	...	0.4	...
266	230	Azlan	257	-3	...	1.3	30.6
283	224	Beales Hunter	241	...	...	4.9	14.9
9	2	Bennett & Fount	4	...	...	...	...
451	319	BICC	442	+10	19.2	5.4	...
538	408	Bick	485	...	10.2	2.7	∞
1700	925	Borland	1100	...	...	...	...
384	220	Bowthorpe	362	-4	...	2.4	26.0
489½	376	BT	461	-½	...	4.4	17.8
232½	150	BT P/P	205	-1	...	0.8	9.7
18½	5½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	17½	...	0.1	0.7	...
160	48	Burnfield	59	-1	5.7	12.2	9.3
545	334½	Cable Wireless	495	+1	...	1.0	25.0
27½	11½	Chloride	27	-½	...	...	...
276	228	CML Micro	276	...	...	2.1	20.1
120	74	Comptr People	120	+7	...	...	...
173	108½	Cray Elect	164½	-6½	...	1.3	16.8
437	243	Critchley	436	...	...	1.4	25.1
554	414	Dale	516	-5	...	3.4	21.6
468	205	Denmans Ele	468	+5	...	1.7	19.9
620	395	Domino	620	+3	7.4	2.2	14.3
76	48	Dowding Mills	76	-1	...	4.1	32.6
1475	885	Druck	1475	+12	10.9	0.9	31.4
554	358	Electrocomps	548	...	...	1.9	22.3
710	470	El Data Prc	585	-10	3.5	1.2	∞
180	43	Electron House	157	+4	2.6	2.1	34.4
30½	10½	Emess	25	+1	0.1	0.5	...
745	442	Eurotherm	744	...	9.5	1.6	∞
202	108	FKI	190	-4	...	2.2	27.8
608	340	Farnell Elect	606	...	...	1.4	32.1
91	33	Feedback	73	...	...	3.4	9.9
18	1	Ferranti	1	...	...	...	...
315	101	First Tech	314	+9	...	0.8	26.1
270	83	Forward Gp	238	+5	...	2.1	16.8
22½	13½	Forward Tech	20	...	...	...	...
367½	264	GEC	331	+2½	10.4	3.9	16.5
199	132	Graseby	168	...	...	8.1	35.3
14	7½	Graysone	11½	...	...	...	...
52	18	Hildare	40	...	...	1.6	...
169	83	INSTEM	135	...	...	2.9	9.7
169	118	Ind Control	149	...	...	3.7	15.0
388	320	Jones Stroud	388	...	...	2.9	15.5
105	26	Kalamazoo	101	...	2.7	3.3	23.9
19	8	Kembrey	12½	...	0.1	1.6	...
386	260	Kenwood-App	385	+2	...	2.6	21.4
265	47	Kewill Sys	223	...	...	...	...
209	100	Kode	142	...	6.0	5.3	16.8
60	16	Laser-Scan	35	...	...	...	...
365	122	LBMS	144	...	...	0.7	20.3
300	205	Lec Refrig	286	...	9.0	4.4	...
179	129	Life Sciences	157½	-1	3.7	3.0	17.1
303	164	Logica	303	+18	...	1.7	34.9
56	44	LPA Inds	52	...	...	8.5	14.7
229	162	MR Data Mngmt	203	-10	...	3.2	19.1
728	523	Macro 4	718	...	...	3.1	21.8
247	175½	Memec-Sw	247	...	...	1.9	21.9
3013	2450	Micro Focus	1070	-10	...	...	9.9
222	144	Microgen	145	-3	7.2	6.5	∞
42	29	Microvitec	33	-½	...	...	...
528	357	Misys	513	...	...	1.7	18.7
584	98	Mitel	480	...	...	...	...
156	108	MMT Compo	156	...	...	3.2	21.2
32	16	Molynx	30½	-½	1.3	4.5	...
272	202	MTL Instr	260	...	...	1.8	19.6
165	103	Maidstone Elect	141	...	3.5	3.1	25.6
289	116	Murray Enter	266	...	...	1.9	∞
3206½	2612½	NYMEX	2725	-25	...	...	...
186	124	Neoronics	125	-2	2.6	2.6	∞
65	42	Newmark (L)	53	...	...	...	...
285	58	Norbain	287	...	...	0.7	22.1
75	20	Northamber	50	...	0.6	1.5	...
15½	5	Oceonics	7	...	...	...	...
397	195	Oxford Inst	335	-1	4.6	1.7	28.0
83	48	P-E Internatl	82	+2½	...	...	...
81½	29	P & P	66	-1	1.5	2.8	36.1
95½	55	Peek	91	...	3.4	4.7	23.8
227	115	Pegasus	217	+3	...	3.7	55.7
£102½	9000	Philips Fn 4%	£102½	-12½	...	5.6	...
1500	725	-do- Ltd nv	1437½	+1	...	...	...
403	221	Photomedix	373	...	...	...	...
325	171½	Pilot	325	...	...	1.6	27.2
315	171½	-do- 'A' Voting	315	...	...	1.6	26.4
99	63	Plasmon	72	...	...	5.2	6.1
120	76	Pressac	105	...	...	3.1	22.3
213	81	Pston	213	+3	...	1.5	56.6
261	147	Racal Elect	194	-5	4.2	2.7	11.5
70	33	Radamec	48	...	...	3.9	10.3
70	24	Radius	37	-2	2.2	7.6	12.8
93	61	Real Time	90	+15	...	4.2	18.5
35	15	Riva	18	...	...	...	22.8
629	367	Sage Gp	516	+1	9.9	2.4	∞
348	222	Sanderson Elec	338 †	+5	9.0	3.7	14.4
88	49	Scantronic	80	-1	3.1	5.0	21.9
205	117	Scholes Gp	194	...	...	3.2	25.1
375	270	Sema Gp	319	...	2.9	1.1	25.9
42	26	Silverminer	42	...	...	3.8	...
72	37	Soundtracks	72	...	...	3.9	24.3
2675	1737½	TDK	2287½	-12½	...	1.4	25.9
27	4½	TDS Circuits	18	+½	...	...	...
198	80	Telemetrix	159	...	0.8	0.6	26.2
1065	889	THORN EMI	1047	+1	...	3.8	24.3
152	96	Thorpe FW	135	...	...	2.5	15.7
103	23	Total Systems	35	-1	1.5	5.4	6.2
575	372	Tunstall	565 †	...	7.0	1.5	∞
295	164	Unitech	278	...	...	2.7	65.9
15	6	Verity	12	...	...	...	...
35	22	Vistec	27½	...	...	...	...
634½	367	Vodafone	587	-4	...	1.6	25.5
473	368	Volex	451	-3	18.1	5.0	18.5
26	11	Western Selectn	20	...	0.2	1.6	...
303	223	Wholesale Ftgs	303	...	11.7	4.8	32.2

ELECTRICITY

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
676	389	East Midlands	634	+8	...	4.1	11.1
704	399	Eastern Elect	646	+3	...	4.0	12.2
480½	304	Hydro-Elect	467	-5	...	3.3	15.6
677	404	London Elect	625 †	...	...	4.3	11.8
772	458	Manweb	730	+8	...	3.7	9.1
731	424½	Midlands Elec	685	+5	...	3.9	10.7
510	273	National Powr	478	-4	...	2.9	11.8
741	440	Northern Elec	698	+4	...	4.1	9.0
283	180	Nthn Ireland	268	-1	...	4.7	8.9
766	439	Norweb	718	+8	20.8	3.7	10.2
572	271	PowerGen	544	-8	...	2.6	14.3
487	285	Scottish Power	454	-7	...	3.2	16.7
754	436	Seeboard	720	+7	...	3.6	11.2
770	469	Sth Wales	732	+4	...	4.0	11.1
706	426	Sth Western	665	+8	...	4.1	9.6
724	406	Southern Elec	666 †	+7	...	3.9	8.8
692	455	Yorkshire Elec	665	+4	...	4.0	12.4

FINANCE, LAND

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60½	50	Aitken Hume	54	...	1.0	2.5	11.5
133	47	BWD	139	...	...	3.2	20.8
111	26	Baltic Plc	110	+1	...	1.1	...
631	413	Caledonia	631	+6	...	3.1	23.5
2000	1075	Camellia	2000	+100	...	1.9	7.5
356	243	Candover	348	...	10.4	3.8	24.6
385	71	Flextech	370 #	...	...	0.3	...
403	155	Govett	400	-2	...	4.1	11.7
230	125	Ivory Stone	210 †	+2	...	4.2	18.1
240	154	Lon Forfaiting	236	...	8.7	4.6	37.2
81	47	Manakin	80 †	...	...	...	...
12½	3½	Nat Home Loan	10½	...	...	...	...
53	40	Newmarket	53	...	...	...	...
341	246	Rathbone Brs	317	...	6.5	2.6	19.3
26	17	Rutland Tst	22½	...	...	4.4	13.4
340	253	S & U	315	...	10.2	4.1	11.6
96	48	Singer & Fried	93	-2	...	4.0	...
1138	713	Sothebys	1105	...	...	3.1	...
147	113	SJP Capital	144	-1	3.0	2.6	39.4
206	163	Towry Law	203	-1	...	2.8	19.9

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2550½	1487½	Amer Express	2043½	+81½	...	...	...
1133	835	Henderson Adt	1033	...	...	5.1	23.6
206	92	Invesco	197	-2	...	1.9	...
317	164	Jardine Strat	268	+3	...	2.9	11.2
285	158	MAI	276	+½	...	3.1	17.5
728	389	MAM	721	+2	16.0	2.8	18.0
1036	653	M & G	1036 †	+3	25.0	3.0	∞
443	109	Smith New Crt	443	...	...	2.0	4.3
81	45	Trio Hldgs	56	...	2.5	5.7	∞

FOODS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
573	456	AB Food	570	-1	...	3.3	11.7
77½	48½	ASDA Group	60½	-½	1.6	3.4	...
367	170	Acatos & Hutch	367	+19	8.6	2.8	...
80	55	Albert Fisher	57	...	3.7	7.8	∞
407	296	Argyll	298	+3	...	4.7	10.7
260	180	Banks (S C)	259	...	9.5	4.6	11.4
402	305	Barr (AG)	318	+6	6.5	2.6	∞
85	54	Bensons Crisps	66	...	...	5.4	14.8
141	100	Berisford Intl	128 #	...	...	...	...
485	357	Booker	440	+3	...	6.2	28.2
52	35	Borthwick	50½	...	...	3.0	62.7
505	430	Brake Bros	470	+2	6.3	1.7	19.6
51	37	Budgen	37	...	...	3.4	11.2
545	407	Cadbury-Schw	528	-11	...	3.2	18.6
222	78	Carrs Milling	194 †	-23	...	2.8	14.1
196	133	Cranswick	155 †	-1	...	6.5	14.7
22	8½	Cullens	15½	...	0.5	4.0	44.5
384	119	Dalepak	145	...	6.0	5.2	11.4
521	424	Dalgety	519	+2	...	4.9	14.8
54	27	Daniels S	50	...	...	0.6	...
294	191	Devro	282	+3	...	2.6	24.9
134	99	Everest	101	...	...	4.6	18.3
390	269	Farepak	350	...	5.7	1.8	24.0
10	3	Farringford	7	...	...	...	...
94	64	Finlay (James)	75	...	...	6.9	24.9
125	78	Fyffes	100	...	...	1.6	18.0
403	256	Geest	273	+16	8.1	3.7	12.3
16	7	Globals	14	...	...	4.5	21.8
50	43	Grand Central	50	...	0.8	2.0	...
203	139	Hazlewood Fds	159	+1	...	5.1	9.0
186	121	Hillsdown	184	+10	8.8	6.0	14.4
280	146	Iceland Group	193	+1	...	2.3	12.2
131	92	JLI Group	108 †	+2	...	5.4	12.0
853	542	Kwik Save	617	+9	...	3.7	11.1
262	144	Low (Wm)	193	...	...	5.4	6.8
90	41	Matthews (B)	89	...	2.3	3.3	58.3
19½	11	Merchant Retail	15½	...	0.9	7.8	31.3
174	84	Morrison (W)	116	+4	...	0.9	15.1
233	177	Nichols (JN)	226	...	5.5	3.1	16.4
291	207½	Nthn Foods	252	+10	...	4.2	12.3
30½	8	Nthmbrn Fns	9	...	...	...	...
229	172	Nurdin Peack	188	+1	...	4.1	10.4
385	205	Park Foods	276	-6	...	2.7	21.3
115	58	Perkins Food	64	...	...	8.7	7.4
121	47	PizzaExpress	116	-2	...	0.5	34.5
9	1½	Regina Hlth	5	...	...	...	...
594	360	Sainsbury J	466	+9	...	2.8	16.3
86	33	Senwy Farms	73	...	...	2.6	13.1
225	90	Sims Food	104	...	...	2.8	20.0
446½	353½	Tate & Lyle	446½	+17½	...	3.6	11.9
273	176	Tesco	238½	+3	...	3.8	10.8
211	123	Thorntons	182	...	...	2.5	...
203	101	Treats	200	...	...	2.5	∞
411	300	Unigate	409	+2	...	5.0	13.4
437	336	Utd Biscuits	379	-6	...	5.0	23.5
24½	18½	Usborne	21	...	...	3.2	15.5
358	248	Watson & Phil	351	-7	14.3	5.2	∞
59	30½	West Trust	40	+3	...	8.4	...

HOTELS, CATERERS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
26	12	Aberdn Stk H	26	...	...	...	...
93½	77	City Centre Rest	91½	...	1.5	2.1	22.1
272	170	Forte	270	+5	...	3.5	21.2
215	148	Friendly Hotels	175	...	...	4.1	34.1
11½	5	Harmony Props	11	+1½	...	...	...
169	87	Jurys Hotel	163	...	...	3.9	13.2
222½	142	Ladbroke	201½	...	11.1	6.9	17.2
98	50	Mandarin Ornt	85	-3	...	4.0	21.1
2½	½	Regal Hotels	1½	...	...	...	...
55	28	Resort Hotels	45 #	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
24	11½	Ryan Hotels	21½	...	...	5.8	...
855	700	Savoy Hotel 'A'	805	+12	7.0	1.1	...
79	34½	Stakis	78	+3	1.0	1.6	∞

INDUSTRIALS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
218	19	AAF Inds	44	-4	...	25.0	2.7
616	455	AAH	495	-3	...	4.4	16.5
185	125	AIM	147	...	7.5	6.4	8.9
132	96	APV	126	...	...	5.4	...
238	81	ASW	160	...	...	4.7	...
192	118	Adwest	180	...	...	4.7	18.3
29	10	Aerospace Eng	20	...	...	4.7	26.3
301	249	Airsprung	301	+1	...	1.9	19.2
199	113	Alexdra W	199	+1	2.1	2.6	31.5
13½	6½	Allied Radio	7½	...	...	...	...
292½	207½	Alumasc	288	...	...	2.5	12.0
48	17	Alvis	40½ †	...	1.0	3.1	∞
725	345	Amber Ind	725	...	...	3.3	16.6
56	45	Amberley Gp	50	...	...	2.5	...
107	75	Anagen	80	...	...	...	...
145	65	Andrews Sykes	85	+2	...	4.4	...
1350	703	Antofagasta	1320	...	...	1.5	24.4
54½	37	Armour	49½	-1½	...	4.1	11.8
170	143	Ash & Lacy	168	...	6.4	4.8	17.2
4	2½	Ass Br Eng	3½	...	...	1.9	42.5
541½	434	Avon Rubber	525	+5	...	3.9	∞
220	168	Avonc Nursg	220 †	...	...	0.5	16.6
687½	488	Atlas Equip	493	...	...	5.6	12.4
81	35	Ayrshire Metal	66	...	...	...	...
205	147	BBA	204½	+2½	...	4.6	17.4
115	28	BLP Group	115	...	...	...	...
77	13	BM Gp	29½	...	0.5	2.7	...
770	590	BOC	640	+1½	...	4.5	15.1
79½	50	BSG	72	...	...	5.6	25.1
549	353	BSS Group	548	+1	...	3.9	30.6
409½	318	BTR	351	+3½	...	4.0	19.6
221	147	BWI	159	-1	...	5.3	14.7
50	25½	Babcock	35½	...	...	3.9	21.2
11	4½	Bailey (CH)	10½	+1½	...	...	...
289	228	Baird (Wm)	262	+4	8.9	4.2	18.2
1062½	403	Barlow Rand	412½	...	...	8.4	∞
66	48	Baynes (Charles)	65	...	...	2.8	26.6
29½	14	Bearing Power	21 †	-1	0.7	4.5	∞
15	4	Beaufort	6	...	...	...	...
10	2	Beckenham	2½	...	...	...	...
34	15	Bedford (W)	32	...	...	...	...
27½	15	Benson Group	15½	...	...	2.4	11.7
707	285	Bespak	355 †	-5	10.2	3.6	11.1
133	55	Bibby (J)	73	...	2.0	3.4	∞
312	190	Billam (J)	203	...	5.3	1.3	10.2
41	21½	Bilston Bttrsea	30	...	...	...	...
11½	2	Bimec Ind	4½	...	...	...	...
249	118½	Birkby	249	+1	3.7	1.9	13.0
45	29	Black Arrow	31	...	2.1	8.5	9.7
1½	½	Black & Edgtn	1½	...	...	...	...
266	136	Black (Peter)	266	...	3.7	1.8	23.4
580	390	Bluebird Toys	580	+2	...	1.0	17.7
322	230	Bodycote	284	...	...	2.3	18.2
40	23	Bogod 'A'	35 †	+2	0.7	2.5	13.0
609	416	Boots	556	-6	...	3.1	22.0
61	39	Booth Inds	57	...	...	...	...
523	402	Bowater	480	+3	...	3.1	20.1
1682	1199	Bowater Inc	1591	-12	...	...	...
229	199	Bowmore Inds	259	...	...	1.8	19.4
19	12½	Breway	16½	...	...	3.8	...
310	204	Bremmer	310	+2	13.0	5.2	23.1
29	12	Bridgend Gp	26	...	0.4	...	...
125	64	Bridon	123	...	...	4.1	...
88	53	Bridport-Gndry	81	...	...	3.9	...
53½	31	Brierley Inv	50	-2	...	6.8	12.3
308	190	Br Bldg & Eng	300	...	8.0	5.0	∞
119	42	Br Bloodstock	104	...	...	...	...
528	415	Br Polythene	452	...	...	2.8	16.2
135½	54	Br Steel	122½	-½	...	1.5	...
180	80	Br Syphon	85	...	...	4.4	23.8
195	115	Br Thornton	156 †	...	...	4.0	16.2
273	215	Br Vita	270	-1	7.3	3.4	16.6
15½	5½	Britton Grp	14½	-½	...	1.5	...
848	555	Broken Hill	833	-4	...	2.2	37.7
112	78	Bromsgrve Ind	97	+3	...	5.8	12.4
11½	6½	Brooke Tool	9½	...	...	...	...
77	36	Brown & Tawse	54	...	...	...	...
165	91	Bullough	165	...	6.0	4.6	28.3
24	11½	Business Tech	14½	...	...	...	...
28	12	CI Group	15	...	0.5	4.8	14.4
42	11	Campbll & Arm	40	...	...	...	...
39	6½	Cannon St	33½	-1	...	...	...
260	205	Cape	260	...	...	5.0	17.6
440	254	Caradon	427	-3	...	2.6	34.5
214	138	-do- pf	206	-1	7.2	4.4	...
286	178	Carclo Eng	286	...	8.6	3.8	20.3
2888	2025	Carnaud Mtl	2263	...	...	2.7	∞
82	68	Castlly Bros	82	...	...	3.7	13.3
235	158	Castings	233	-1	4.6	2.5	16.4
71	53	Cathay Intl	61	-3	...	...	...
250	217	Celltech	225	...	...	...	...
195	113	Chmbrlin Hill	175	...	6.5	4.6	10.9
753	605	Charter	749	+1	...	1.7	11.5
345	220	Chemring	333 †	+11	9.0	3.5	∞
92	45	Chieftain Gp	46	...	4.5	12.2	9.9
45½	15½	Chillington	40	...	1.0	3.2	...
233	144	Christies Int	231	...	...	0.8	57.3
70	34	Claybithe	70	...	...	4.5	...
95	55	Clayton Son	70	+10	...	...	...
415	285	Cohen (A)	415	...	3.4	1.0	...
245	179	Community H	245	...	...	3.5	16.7
246	186½	Concentric	230	+2	5.8	3.2	∞
282	120	Cook (Wm)	287	-3	6.0	2.6	17.4
257	182	Cookson	252	+1	...	3.0	33.3
95	38	Copymore	95	+4	...	1.3	29.0
238	130	Crswll Pkr 'A'	155	...	...	4.6	21.0
178	92	Cosalt	127	+2	5.3	5.3	∞
255	150	Creighton Nat	254	...	...	3.6	18.2
48	27	CrestaCare	40	...	0.6	2.0	34.6
4006½	2995½	Dana	3942½	-6½	...	...	...
345	79	Danka Bs Sys	320	+5	...	0.6	30.4
263	193	David Brown	263	+1	...	2.9	18.7
22	5	Davies (DY)	18	...	...	...	...
889	632	De La Rue	889	+8	...	2.7	21.4
38	16	Dinkie Heel	37	...	1.1	3.7	29.5
589	391	Diploma	573	-2	12.0	2.6	∞
92	50	Dobson Park	92	+1	3.7	5.1	∞
119	92	Dyson (J&J)	118	...	5.0	5.4	21.2
83	57	-do- 'A'	82	...	5.0	7.6	15.1
10½	8	EFG	14	...	...	...	...
440	358	EIS	422	...	...	3.6	16.7
28	19	Elder	24	...	...	...	...
50	19	Eleco	48	...	...	...	0.00
2537½	1250	Electrolux 'B'	2400	-12½	...	2.2	...
76	43	Elliott (B)	75	...	...	...	...
513	394	Eng China Cl	511	+3	...	4.9	29.9
144	111	Environmed	140	...	...	...	...
3962½	1550	Ericsson 'B'	2862½	-46½	...	1.0	...
86	32	Eurovest	85	...	1.7	2.5	∞
87	47	Expamet	60	...	...	5.0	14
725	490	Fairey Group	724	...	10.7	1.8	22.3
121	45	Fenner	114	...	...	...	...
89	32	Ferraris Group	89	+1	2.0	2.8	∞
29	12	Ferrum	12	-1	1.4	14.6	8.4
66	28	Fife Indmar	60	...	...	5.7	...
251	102	Fisons	142	+3	...	7.7	13.2
58	29	Fitzwilton	58 †	...	...	7.6	...
288	215	Flogas	283	...	...	3.8	12.0
46	33	Folkes Group nv	45	...	1.5	4.2	25.5
103	56	French (Thomas)	103	...	3.6	4.5	∞
263	162	Frost Group	261	-2	...	2.1	33.8
88	70	GEI Int	78	...	...	4.0	...
569½	434	GKN	568½	-1	...	4.5	37.9
51	42	GR Hldgs	51	...	...	4.4	...
117	79	Garton Eng	117	...	4.1	4.4	...
161	103	Gestetner	142	...	8.2	7.2	6.2
68	33	Glaves	63	...	...	...	45.6
804	509	Glaxo	684	-2	...	4.1	17.4
38½	16	Glenchewton	36	...	...	...	...
374	265	Glynwed	369½	+½	11.6	4.0	34.3
153	66	Goode Durrant	153	+2	...	4.5	...
185	102	Grampian Hd	170	-6	5.5	4.0	29.5
587	341	Granada	582 †	-4	...	1.9	23.3
463	301	Great Strm	463	+1	...	3.1	19.0
117	73	Green (Ernst)	82	...	...	10.7	12.4
15½	8½	Greenacre	14½	...	...	2.6	14.5
17	5	Guardian Grp	6 #	...	...	...	...
70	30½	Haden MacLn	70	...	...	3.6	29.2
102	44	Hadleigh Inds	90	...	...	...	...
290	115	Hall Eng	277	...	8.6	3.9	23.1
235	161	Halma	223 †	+1	...	1.2	27.0
56	30	Hampson Ind	54	...	1.6	3.7	17.8
286½	222	Hanson	268	-3½	...	5.3	19.9
221	146	Harris (Philip)	154	...	...	5.6	9.3
205	147	Harrisn Crsfld	200	-1	9.0	3.6	28.4
158	38	Havelock Euro	155	...	...	...	...
51	20	Hay (Norman)	38	...	...	...	...
40	17	Headway	38	...	...	2.5	...
13½	1½	Healthcare	1½	...	...	...	0.5
486	301	Hepworth	469	-1	14.8	4.0	20.2
228	160	Hewitt (J)	203	...	3.2	2.0	15.9
57½	15	High-Point	53	...	0.5	1.2	...
186	112½	Hill & Smith	186	...	...	3.8	25.9
19½	6½	Hobson	17	...	...	...	...
176	87	Holders Tech	172	...	...	4.4	22.4
52	30	Hopkinsons	44	...	0.9	2.6	33.3
188	133	Hornby	187	...	...	6.0	17.7
97	54½	Howden	94	-1	2.2	3.0	17.2
280	173	Hunting	240	+2	...	5.2	20.3
513	269½	Huntleigh Tech	510	...	...	2.5	13.0
349	247	IMI	345	...	...	3.6	30.6
131	90	ISA Intl	130	...	1.5	1.5	20.2
205	131	Intercare Gp	159 †	+1	...	2.8	∞
290	235	Isoton	290	...	4.3	1.9	16.8
707	360	Jardine Math	573	-15	...	2.2	20.8
558	425	Johnson Matth	550	...	...	2.4	21.5
64	35½	Johnson & FB	39	...	...	4.3	37.1
177	104	Johnston	160	...	3.2	...	...
32	19	Jones Shipman	26	...	...	...	...
35	18	Jourdan (T)	29	-1	0.7	3.2	...
178	73	Kalon	167	...	...	2.6	23.2
297	195	Kelsey Ind	230 †	...	8.0	4.3	∞
755	465	Kenhaw (A)	750	...	27.0	4.6	∞
276	75	Keenece	274 †	+5	1.0	0.5	∞
164	61	LGW	163	...	3.4	2.7	13.5
379	286	Laird	374	-1	...	3.5	18.4
157½	103	Lilleshall	145	...	...	3.8	19.1
223	97	Lincat	206	...	...	3.7	14.4
33½	4½	Lincoln Hse	32½	...	...	...	26.8
128	76	Linread	113	...	3.8	4.2	17.5
340	170	Linton Park	338	...	...	5.2	12.2
15½	9½	Lionheart	11½	-½	0.2	2.2	...
22½	15	Locker (T) A	17	...	0.8	6.3	24.7
274	97	Lon Ind	154	+2	6.2	5.1	...
149½	70	Lowrbo	141	...	4.0	3.5	...
388	269	Low & Bonar	383	+5	...	3.0	53.6
49	14½	ML Hldgs	48	...	...	...	...
57	27	MS Ind	57 †	...	...	5.5	34.9
59	39	MY Holdings	52 †	...	...	3.0	13.7
246	168	Macfarlane	246	+1	...	1.7	27.9
475	379	McKechnie	475	+2	14.7	3.9	∞
127	85	McLeod Russel	121	...	...	6.3	17.9
106	63	Magnolia	100	...	0.1	0.1	16.1
132	71	Mang Bronze	130	...	2.5	2.4	∞
26½	19½	Marling	22	...	...	4.9	...
228	124	Mayborn	228	...	...	2.9	17.5
62	39	Mayflower	56	...	...	1.0	46.8
236	85	Medeva	157	+14½	...	1.9	12.7
118	88	Meggitt	105	+1½	...	4.6	17.9
125	98	Metair	121	...	...	3.8	10.8
154	112	Metrotect	126	+4	...	3.2	17.5
101	70	Metsec	101	...	...	...	...
98	29	Midsummer	96	...	...	1.0	13.4
5	¼	Middlesex	4½	+¼	...	...	...
575	368	Molins	562	-7	...	3.2	13.5
369	262	Morgan Cble	382	-2	...	4.1	20.0
184	134	Morris Ashby	177	...	...	4.1	13.3
40	18	Neepsend	40	+1	1.0	3.1	53.7
74	34	Nesor-BNA	72	...	3.1	5.5	17.2
249	122	Nobo Gp	249	...	5.3	2.7	24.4
195	122½	Norcros	185 †	+1	...	4.7	27.0
51	33	Novo Group	35 †	...	...	3.8	11.2
413	310	Nu-Swift	399	...	...	...	∞
81	36	Office Elec Mac	55	-3	...	...	...
63½	21	OMI Intl	63 †	...	...	3.5	...
165	123	PCT	162	...	...	5.6	18.4
91	36	Pacer Systems	83	...	...	5.2	...
138	87½	Pentland	117	...	...	2.8	15.9
395	283	Photo-Me	284	-4	4.6	2.0	18.4
187	97½	Pilkington	165½	-½	...	1.7	...
100	68	Plantsbrook	100	+4	3.1	3.9	15.8
161	125	Polypipe	161	+6	2.1	1.6	21.8
42	15	Porter Chadburn	22	-1	...	2.3	10.1
14½	5½	Porth Gp	12½	...	...	...	...
376	272	Powerscreen	334	-2	...	2.5	17.4
21½	16½	Prospect Inds	19½	-½	0.8	5.2	∞
65	33½	RFS Group	58	+1	2.3	5.0	12.8
95	73	Radiant Metal	82	-3	...	...	...
186	77	Ramco Oil	154	-10	...	0.8	51.6
1036	636	Rank Org	1001	+20	31.0	3.9	27.4
33	13	Ransomes	18	-1	...	...	...
725	532	Reckitt Colm	688	-3	...	3.0	15.9
77	50	Record	70	...	3.6	6.4	34.4
7½	2½	Reece	5½	...	...	...	...
277	131	Relyon	270	...	5.0	2.3	32.4
303	208	Renishaw	298	...	...	2.7	35.4
135	55	Renold	131	...	...	1.4	...
1887	1240	Reuters	1853	+28	22.1	1.5	30.6
87	24½	Rexmore	82	-2	2.0	3.1	...
196	91	Ricardo Group	190	-3	...	3.8	26.9
76	58	Richard (Leics)	71	...	...	3.7	6.6
98	63	Richardson West	92	...	3.0	4.1	23.6
142	109	Ropner	138	...	8.2	7.5	19.6
136	97	-do- 'A'	134	...	8.2	7.7	19.0
38	14	Ross Gp	18½	...	0.6	4.4	7.6
184	131½	Rotork	177	...	...	2.6	20.7
172	89	Rubicon	172	+1	...	3.3	24.1
66	43	Russell (A)	65	...	...	1.0	...
38	15	SEP Indl	38	...	0.8	2.7	∞
1212½	625	SKF 'B'	1200	-12½	...	...	...
248	205	Scapa	240	...	...	3.0	17.9
238	179	Scholl	195	...	...	4.0	14.2
323	277	Scoda	289	...	...	...	...
1196	917	Securicor	1196	+6	...	0.3	33.8
916	562	-do- 'A'	916	+6	...	0.4	25.9
786	465	Security Serv	786	+6	5.1	0.8	38.9
136½	77	Senior Eng	134	-½	...	3.0	22.4
361	278	Seton Health	327	...	...	2.3	19.3
43	31	Sheldon Jones	33 †	...	...	2.7	15.1
166	88	Shiloh	140	...	3.0	2.7	...
344	271	Sidlaw	326	...	...	4.0	16.2
587	427	Siebe	567	-5	...	2.3	19.9
383	220	Silentnight	366	...	...	2.7	19.8
181	102	Sime Darby	140	...	...	3.9	∞
142	32	Simon Eng	123	...	...	...	...
250	180	Sinclair (Wm)	187	...	...	4.7	14.6
47	35	600 Group	39	...	...	4.8	...
164	134	Smith & Neph	154½	-2	...	3.8	17.2
453	373	Smiths Ind	407	+6	9.6	3.0	14.7
385	340	SmithKline Uts	375	+5	...	3.2	12.7
473	309	Smurfit	472	+1	...	3.1	18.9
140	58	Stm Bus	81	-1	3.7	5.9	∞
485	265	Spandex	485	+15	...	1.7	21.6
660	300	Spear (JW)	550	...	4.5	1.0	10.3
391	314	Spirax-Sarco	391	+2	...	3.0	24.5
145	44	Spring Ram	54	-½	...	0.6	...
230	201	Staveley	225	...	...	4.7	12.7
234	125	Sterling Ind	224 †	...	...	3.1	31.3
195	97	Suter	195	...	9.0	5.8	20.4
611	244	Swire Pacfc 'A'	480	-13	...	1.0	∞
7	2	Sycamore	3½	+½	...	...	...
78	53	Sykes-Pick	55	+2	...	7.0	10.5
175	120	Syltone	175 †	...	...	3.4	25.3
455	279	TI	435	-3	...	3.1	29.7
34	12	TLS Range	34	...	...	0.9	...
348	211	TT Group	348	+8	...	2.4	21.4
299	201	Takare	289	+8	...	0.8	25.2
868	618	Takeda Chem	690	-16	...	0.9	13.1
68	34	Tex Hldgs	59	-1	...	...	...
709	70	Tinsley (E)	101 †	...	...	6.9	17.4
240	150	Titon	219	...	...	2.4	∞
274	212½	Tomkins	253	+4	...	3.3	18.5
113	59	Trafalgar H	95 †	-3	...	4.3	...
116	65	Transfer Tech	90	-3	3.2	5.0	10.1
190	120	Triplex Lloyd	146 †	...	...	6.0	17.6
111	98	Ugland	98	...	...	...	...
281	214	UniChem	272	-1	6.4	2.9	17.8
390	275	Unitech	390	...	...	3.3	∞
76	11½	Unigroup	34	-2	...	...	...
1269	938	Unilever	1162	-4	22.2	2.4	15.8
8127½	6362½	Unilever (NV)	7530	-34½	...	2.8	12.4
24½	9	Utd Inds	15½	...	...	...	...
958	513	VSEL	947	-3	...	4.0	10.2
19½	6½	Verson	19	...	...	...	...
183	95½	Vickers	174	-3	...	1.6	...
367	263	Victaulic	298	+9	...	3.3	14.7
479	283	Vinten	479	...	...	1.9	22.3
694	422	Vosper Thorny	694	+11	...	3.0	16.1
48	33	WSP Hldgs	46	...	...	7.3	12.0
475	368	Wagon Ind	475 †	...	...	4.6	20.9
8½	1½	Wakebourne	3	...	...	...	16.4
108	71	Walker Greenbk	108	+1	3.1	3.6	27.6
289	201	Wassall	277	...	2.7	1.2	27.9
51	23	Wrford Wdgwd	49	-1	...	...	...
384	252	Weir	319	-2	...	2.4	18.0
993	600	Wellcome	650	-24	...	3.3	13.8
23½	16	Wellman	23½	...	0.9	4.8	38.4
385	260	West Hlthcare	384	...	...	1.2	24.7
510	455	Whatman	502	+2	9.7	2.4	17.0
323	221	Whessoe	239 †	...	8.2	4.3	∞
96	27	Whitecroft	96	...	...	...	...
10½	4½	Widney	10½	...	...	...	...
138	44	Wilkes (James)	137	...	3.5	...	40.1
403	296½	Williams Hldg	384	-2	12.5	4.1	20.1
40½	17	Wilshaw	42½	...	...	1.6	26.8
898	533	Wolseley	875	-3	...	1.9	26.1
155	125	Wood (Arthur)	135	...	1.5	1.2	56.5
48	35	Wyko	40	-3	...	3.1	...
69	38	Young (H)	78	-6	3.3	5.3	∞

INSURANCE

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1993½	1193½	Alex & Alex	1325	...	...	5.0	...
2405½	1787½	Am Gen	2043½	+118½	...	3.6	...
80	30	Archer (AJ)	79	...	1.0	1.6	...
156	118	Bradstock	156	...	3.5	4.5	∞
498	359½	Britannic	446	-1	...	3.3	...
688	558	Com Union	655	-4	...	4.6	...
1750	1225	Dom & Gen	1748	...	...	1.6	23.1
51	18	FAI	51	...	...	...	...
757	546	Gen Accident	723	-3	26.7	4.6	...
236	160	GRE	217	-6	7.1	4.1	18.0
423	289	Heath C E	412	...	...	4.9	...
228	148	Hogg Gp	186	...	8.1	6.1	15.1
300	255	Independent Ins	300	...	...	3.4	27.6
215	162	IIB Group	183	+1	...	5.1	18.8
546	408½	Legal & Gen	526	+1	...	4.6	32.0
1271	768	Liberty Life	1209	-15	...	2.6	19.2
121	99	LIMIT	116	-1	...	...	...
468	403	Lloyds Abbey	455	+6	17.3	4.8	16.4
338	253	Lloyd Thomp	301	...	6.7	2.8	18.7
395	274	Londn & Man	388	-1	14.7	4.7	28.6
448	321	Lowndes Lmb	448	...	14.0	3.9	16.1
6743½	5256½	Marsh McLn	5550 †	...	...	3.2	...
130	76	Oriel	112	...	...	5.6	...
81	50½	PWS	81	+4	4.0	6.4	∞
385	282½	Prudential	364	-4	...	4.2	24.2
379½	266½	Refuge	348	...	...	3.9	38.8
347	248	Royal	322	-3	...	2.5	...
304	150	Sedgwick	191	+4	...	3.9	23.5
261	100	Steel Burrill	136	...	...	11.0	8.0
89	48	Sturge Hldgs	75	...	3.0	5.1	∞
418	307	Sun Alliance	388	-2	14.2	4.6	...
88	50	Trade Indemnity	85	...	...	...	...
389	239	Transatlantic	385	...	12.0	3.9	35.7
773	499	Utd Friendly	578	-2	15.1	3.3	25.2
245	171	Willis Corroon	228	-1	...	3.6	49.0
25	13½	Windsor	23	...	...	...	18.1

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INVESTORS CHRONICLE

THE CITY INSIDE OUT

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
450	304	Ang & O'seas	437	-3	6.8	2.0	55.5
161	136	BZW Conv	159½	-1½	7.8	6.3	18.2
210	133½	Bankers	205	-1	3.6	2.3	∞
372	264	Baring Tribne	366	-2	6.4	2.2	57.9
203	131	Berry Starq	201	...	2.2	1.4	65.4
117	96½	Br Assets	110	-½	...	4.9	26.2
93	57½	Br Empire Sec	92½	+½	...	1.3	78.8
37	14	-do- Wnts	34	-1½	...	...	...
223	156	Br Inv	219	-1	4.6	2.6	49.4
262	174	Brunner	257	-2	5.2	2.6	∞
221	130	Contl Asset	215	-3	2.4	1.4	71.5
195	143	Derby Inc	157	...	...	11.3	9.4
320	195	-do- Cap	308	-2	...	...	...
97	62	Drayton Blue	93	-1	8.4	11.3	10.3
92	35	-do- Eng Intl	91	...	1.0	1.4	...
150½	84	-do- Far East	137	+3	0.6	0.6	...
165½	95	-do- Korea	164	...	0.5	0.4	...
772	576	Dunedn Inc G	750	-4	...	4.3	34.5
100	76	-do- Japan	91	-6	...	...	...
62	34	-do- Warrants	59	-3	...	...	...
788	513	-do- Wrde	765	-2	...	1.6	79.0
309	222	Dundee & Lon	309	...	...	3.6	35.4
348	250½	Edinburgh	334	-1½	8.5	3.2	36.5
333	183	Electra Inv	325 †	+1	7.0	2.7	∞
208	141	Electric Gen	205 †	-1½	3.1	1.9	63.9
122	85	English Scot	122	...	...	...	...
341	205	European Asset	337	-1	...	2.1	43.8
151	77	Finsbury 'A'	150	+½	3.0	2.5	48.3
323½	248	Fleming Amer	316	-1½	0.8	0.3	...
145	91	Fleming Chinese	118	+7½	...	...	...
92	52	-do- Warrants	70	+7½	...	...	...
250	190½	-do- Claver	244½	-2½	...	2.7	48.2
364	212	Do Contl	359	-1	2.7	0.9	...
229	147	-do- Ensp	224½	-1½	...	2.6	45.4
459	213	-do- F East	399	-11½	1.1	0.3	...
378	246	-do- Fledg	377	+1	3.0	1.0	...
122	93	-do- Hi Inc	110½	-2	...	5.0	18.9
260	136	-do- Japan	236	-11	...	0.2	...
317½	250	-do- Merc	313	-½	6.7	2.7	67.0
335	212	-do- Oseas	333	-2	4.2	1.6	67.6
298	203	Foreign & Col	293	-2½	...	1.5	70.8
140	56½	-do- Emg Mkts	126½	-1½	0.2	0.3	∞
74½	44	-do- Enterprise	73½	-½	0.4	0.7	...
251	164	-do- Eurotst	248	-1	...	0.6	...
145	87	-do- German	130	-4	0.5	0.5	...
357	191	-do- Pacific	320	-9	...	0.9	...
186	116	-do- Smaller	182½	-2	1.8	1.3	...
272	145	GT Japan	253	-9	...	0.6	...
180	65	Genl Cons Cap	175	-1	...	...	...
123½	96½	-do- Inc	112	...	...	9.4	11.6
170	115	Govett Am Smlr	176	...	...	...	...
144	94	-do- Emg Mkts	129	-4	...	...	...
429	184	-do- Oriental	376	-10	0.9	0.3	...
300	207	-do- Strategy	297	-1	...	2.1	41.5
438	340	Greenfriar	438	...	...	1.8	65.8
19	5	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
154	124	Inv Cap	147	-2	...	4.4	38.2
111	77	LMS UK Smllr	109	...	2.8	3.2	30.4
236	156½	Kleinwort Chn	228	-2	5.1	2.9	∞
264	176	-do- O'seas	252	-2	3.3	1.6	71.6
146	108	-do- Smlr	146	+2	...	3.0	35.4
826	540	Law Debenture	810	-5	18.5	2.9	40.5
226	161	Majedie	224	...	...	2.8	41.8
316	221	Merchants	305½	-3	...	4.5	28.1
3343½	1850	Merrill Lynch	2881½	+31½	...	...	...
592	383	Monks Inv Tst	563	-13	...	1.5	71.3
154	105	Morg Gren Inc	147	-2	4.5	3.8	∞
59	23	Do Warrants	58	...	...	...	...
64	39	Murray Euro	64	...	0.1	0.3	...
29½	4½	Do Wts	22	-1	...	...	...
389	282	Murray Income	371	-1	10.8	3.7	35.4
394	265	-do- Ind	374 †	-2	11.6	3.9	39.7
539	363	-do- Small	514	-15	...	1.0	...
103	84½	-do- S/C Inc	95	+1	...	13.9	∞
153	73	-do- S/C Cap	149	-3	...	...	...
3250	2750	-do- S/C Uts	3250	...	...	4.1	∞
160	142½	-do- S/C DF	159	...	...	...	...
358	230	-do- Vent	355	-1	...	3.8	28.7
94	68	Newtrog Inc	94	...	6.7	9.1	17.4
386	249	O'seas Inv Tst	375	-4	...	1.0	...
647	285	Pacific Assets	523	-5	1.1	0.3	...
545	167	Do Warrants	427	-5	...	...	...
8850	7650	Personal Assets	8825	...	19.0	2.7	52.1
189	100	RIT Cap Ptnr	180	-2	1.1	0.8	...
127	108	River & Merc	124	-1	9.2	9.3	12.4
465	350	Robeco	425	...	...	3.0	...
435	346	Rolinco	430	...	...	1.8	...
297	214	St Andrew Inv	297	-2	7.5	3.2	39.0
174	131	Scot American	166½	-1	...	3.5	35.2
371	136	Scot Asian	308	-7	...	...	...
1090	225	do Warrants	948	-5	...	...	...
92	63½	-do- Eastern	87½	-½	1.5	2.2	57.5
249	183	Scottish	242 †	-1	4.9	2.5	∞
257	178	-do- Mtge	245	-2	4.0	2.0	63.6
127½	71	-do- Value	125	-1	1.8	1.8	∞
1748	1390	Second Allnce	1723	-5	...	2.8	43.4
103	74½	Secs Tst of Scot	98	-1½	3.2	4.1	52.4
172	109½	Selective Asset	171	...	1.2	0.9	61.5
46½	14	Sphere Inv	45	-1	3.1	8.6	14.5
205	112	TR Far East	172	-4½	...	3.6	32.7
167	126	TR Cty Of Lon	161	...	...	3.8	34.8
249	110	TR Pacific	198	-5	0.3	0.2	...
41½	17	TR Property	38½	-7	0.9	2.9	40.1
136	47	TR Tech Inv	128	-4	1.7	1.7	47.5
210	146	TR Smlr Cos	206	...	...	2.3	47.2
399½	283	Temple Bar	384	-3	13.2	4.3	29.0
135	69	Thrgmtn Asian E	123	...	0.5	0.5	...
86	54	Throgmorton	82	...	2.3	3.5	33.9
550	363	Throg Dual Cp	538	-2	...	...	...
260	178	USDC Invest	256	-2	4.5	2.2	47.1
120	76½	Value Inc Tst	118½	-½	4.0	4.2	29.8
950	542	Whitbread Inv	925	...	16.5	2.2	55.7
249½	181	Witan	238	-1½	5.6	2.9	41.7

LEISURE

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
539	269	Airtours	538 †	+3	...	2.1	17.2
64	41	Ald Leis	42½	...	...	8.8	13.9
487	194	Anglia TV	485	+3	...	2.4	22.5
103	63	Baldwin	96	...	4.6	5.9	13.3
269	192	Barr & W 'A'	267	...	10.0	4.7	17.2
1245	930	Boosey Hwks	1195	...	22.0	2.3	17.9
158	90	Border TV	143	-3	...	3.2	12.7
16½	4	Brent Walker	5½	+½	...	...	...
150	48	Bristol Scots	100	-3	...	...	...
9	2½	Buckingham Intl	6½	...	...	...	...
292	44	Campari	58	+5	...	8.7	18.0
368	171	Capital Radio	350	-5	5.7	2.0	∞
970	718	Carlton Comm	933	+4	...	2.5	21.9
270	158	Castle Comm	270	...	...	3.9	17.9
2998	1615	Central TV	2805	-5	39.0	1.7	32.0
124	61	Chrysalis	118 †	...	3.2	3.4	...
699	470	Compass Gp	696	-2	...	2.3	19.1
350	175	Eurocamp	263	...	9.7	4.6	10.9
1180	268	Euro Disney	405	+12	...	2.9	...
8	1½	Euro Leisure	3½	...	...	...	...
39½	18	Ex-Lands	36	...	...	1.2	...
390	245	Fairline Boats	333	+2	...	4.0	30.7
378	232	First Leisure	330	+19	6.5	2.7	∞
385	71	Flextech	379 #	...	...	0.2	...
690	298	GWR Gp	690	...	...	1.6	∞
286	149	Grampian	244	...	6.5	3.3	16.9
22	4½	Greenwich Comm	15	...	...	...	...
115	19	HTV Group	110	-2	...	...	48.9
88	30	Hi-Tec Sports	84	...	...	3.3	...
15	5½	Kunick	13½	...	...	...	...
678	405	LWT Hldgs	661	+9	...	0.9	30.6
600	327	Man Utd	560	...	...	4.4	22.6
48	7½	Northern	38	+1	...	...	...
148	59	Owners Abrd	89	+1	3.9	5.5	7.1
81	33	The Pelican Gp	81	...	...	1.7	19.0
181	55	Prism Leisure	181	...	...	2.3	16.8
42	16	Quadrant Grp	37	...	...	...	...
445	224	Radio Clyde	430 †	-11	...	2.8	19.1
210	132	Ramsdens (H)	209	-1	...	2.7	27.2
553	410	Scot TV	460	-7	10.3	2.8	22.6
79	37	Southern Radio	79 †	...	1.2	2.0	∞
331	168	Stanley Leisure	331	+3	4.3	1.6	26.1
10	5½	Sunleigh	7½	...	...	...	...
145	115	Sunset & Vine	130	...	3.5	3.4	19.9
420	345	Tanjong	343	...	...	0.5	18.7
2½	1	Ticketing	2½	...	...	...	...
117	84	Tottenham Hot	99	+1	...	2.5	5.2
92	44	Trans World	91	...	...	1.1	33.2
533	274	Ulster TV	532	+9	12.0	2.8	16.3
120	62	Vardon	120	+3	0.8	0.8	28.3
22	11	Wembley	16½	...	...	...	...
234	110	Yorkshire TV	180	-11	12.0	8.3	5.4
120	83	Zetters Gp	113	...	8.0	8.8	12.8

MINING

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
6518½	1800	Am Gold	6162½	-171½	...	3.7	27.2
1887½	1018½	Ang Am Coal	1875	-12½	...	4.9	9.7
3675	1125	Ang Am	3087½	-121½	...	2.3	26.0
33½	8½	Anglo Pac Res	33	...	...	...	...
197	33	Blyvoors	156	-9	...	...	...
46	18	Bracken	30	...	...	...	∞
896	233	Buffels	826	-39	...	7.8	7.1
5½	1	Bute	4½	+½	...	...	...
878	546	CRA	819	+9	...	2.5	26.2
43½	11	Cluff Res	39½	+½	...	...	...
1756½	762½	De Beers	1756½	+12½	...	2.9	23.2
165	37½	Deelkraal	120	-13	...	1.7	8.7
96	7	Doornfontein	57	-3	...	...	...
914	388	Driefontein	818	-42	...	3.7	13.5
788	120	Durban	718	-30	...	...	...
201	47	E Rand Gold	135	-20	...	8.1	4.0
175	35	E Rand Prop	100	-13	...	...	...
604	117	Elandsrand	430	-15	...	2.8	10.1
1129	392	FS Cons	1093	-67	...	4.5	14.1
80	8	FS Dev	47	-3	...	...	...
1800	725	GFSA	1690	-100	...	2.5	27.3
150	62½	Gencor	133	-7	...	6.7	14.9
71½	35½	GM Kalgoorli	69½	...	...	2.0	28.5
22½	5	Greenwich R 'A'	15	+½	...	...	...
202	49	Grootvlei	147	-26	...	7.0	9.0
409	78	Harmony	404	-5	...	...	...
430	87	Hartbees	374	-22	...	7.7	9.3
16½	8½	Inoco	15	...	...	...	...
1028	491	Impala Plat	916	-61	...	3.1	29.5
13½	6	Kenmare Res	11½	-½	...	...	...
1315	332	Kinross	1169	-45	...	5.1	∞
913	319	Kloof	814	-18	...	2.7	9.7
137	25	Leslie	99	-9	...	11.1	∞
359	13	Loraine	250	-63	...	...	...
950	620	Lydenburg	950	...	...	2.1	∞
127½	90	MIM	118	-7	...	2.0	51.1
1488	830	Minorco	1472	+8	...	2.6	17.4
176	91	Nth Brkn Hill	169	-1	...	3.0	26.0
3087½	612½	Orange Free	2725	-159½	...	4.8	15.6
859	607	RTZ	813	-13	...	3.0	23.0
212½	106½	Rand Mines	187½	-25	...	6.1	∞
800	150	Randfontein	770	-30	...	4.2	6.9
254	115	Renison	235	...	...	1.9	24.3
1350	850	Rustnbrg	1225	-59½	...	2.7	∞
756	191	St Helena	668	-27	...	3.7	13.7
2470	475	Southvaal	2062	-233	...	2.8	36.1
119	18	Stilfontein	85	-10	...	7.5	15.0
201	58	Unisel	116	-16	...	6.0	∞
7600	1800	Vaal Reefs	6712½	-550	...	3.3	11.7
813	154	Welkom	710	-47	...	4.7	15.9
750	26	Western Areas	521 †	-38	...	1.0	3.6
3362½	587½	Western Deep	2987½	-37½	...	2.1	13.7
340	176	Wstrn Mining	315	-7	...	1.6	...
1236	323	Winkels	1018	-79	...	3.9	∞
84	49	Zambia Copper	53	...	...	...	...
68	18	Zandpan	65	...	...	7.1	21.6

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
258	233	Abbey Panels	238	...	...	...	...
135	95	Airflow Stream	115	...	3.0	3.3	11.1
158	78	Appleyard	150	...	...	4.3	...
350	203	Bletchley Mtr	350	...	...	3.3	17.8
192	120	Bostrom	190	+1	6.0	3.9	33.6
468	165	Br Aerospace	432	-7	7.3	2.1	...
58	19½	Burndene	50 †	-½	1.7	4.4	∞
425	303	Caffyns	413	...	11.5	3.5	21.9
19½	4½	Caverdale	14½	...	...	...	...
143	98	Central Mtrs	128	...	...	3.9	32.5
36	18	Cook (DC)	35	...	...	3.2	19.9
304	156	Cowie (T)	302	+2	6.6	2.7	23.0
141	86	Dag Motors	140	...	5.7	5.1	25.3
155	102½	Davnprt Vern	144	...	...	3.5	18.2
330	155	ERF	315	+10	2.0	0.8	...
151	92	European Mtr	151	...	...	3.1	21.2
453	208	Evans Halshaw	453	+4	11.4	3.2	69.8
290	211	FR Group	264	+4	...	3.4	12.3
4575	2849½	Ford Motor	4499½	-81½	...	...	...
3981½	2143½	General Mtr	3943½	-37½	...	1.4	...
75	38	Gowrings	60	...	2.0	4.2	...
303	85	Henlys	302	...	3.5	1.4	...
1056	769	Honda Motor	919	-18	...	1.0	...
48	15	Jacks (Wm)	43	...	...	...	...
108	66	Jessups	98	...	4.5	5.7	...
176	97	Kwik-Fit	164½	-2	...	2.7	23.2
494	281	Lex Service	474	+1	...	3.0	25.9
183	85	Lookers	183	+4	6.2	4.2	...
208	126	Lucas	205	+3	...	4.3	...
27½	21	Malaya Grp	25½	...	...	...	...
293	224½	Pendragon	293	+1	...	2.7	24.1
194	101½	Perry Gp	194	...	...	4.6	...
190	108	Quicks Group	168	...	...	3.5	21.5
177	96½	Rolls-Royce	161	-3	...	3.9	...
236	164	T & N	231	+6	...	5.9	32.9
274	163	Trinity Hldgs	274	+2	...	2.5	25.6
304	125	Vardy (Reg)	203	...	...	2.7	28.2
265	121	Westland	265 †	+1	4.5	2.1	∞

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
210	103	Adscene	210	+2	5.0	3.0	21.5
360	315	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
608	290	Blenheim Gp	360	+5	...	3.3	13.4
380	275	Bristol	378	...	...	4.0	34.1
£117½	7775	Daily Mail	£116½	-25	...	1.6	27.3
£118	7700	Daily Mail 'A'	£116½	...	...	1.6	27.3
355	210	Dorling Kind	264	...	...	1.6	23.9
6550	4337½	Elsevier	6150	-34½	...	1.5	20.4
429	322	EMAP	429	+3	...	2.4	26.5
1525	873	Euromoney Pb	1513	+13	...	3.1	26.6
264	157	Harrington K	157	...	4.7	3.7	12.8
375	155½	Haynes Pub	375	+2	...	1.8	21.2
363	334	Hodder H'tine	341	...	5.1	1.9	29.0
140	99	Home Counts	125	...	5.2	5.3	...
173	30	Intl Bus Comm	173	...	...	...	25.0
14	6½	Int Cm & Data	12	...	...	...	...
490	240	Independent	468	-12	...	2.7	25.3
580	395	Johnstone Press	575	...	6.5	1.4	24.0
355	243	Metal Bulletin	355	...	8.2	2.9	25.1
192	88	Mirror Gp	186	...	...	...	...
515	287	News Corp	426	-2	...	0.3	...
301	169	News Intl	274	...	...	0.6	16.0
639	342	Pearson	615	-4	...	2.4	33.4
710	510	Portsmth Sund	710	...	...	1.7	19.6
923	618	Reed Int	855	-13	...	2.6	37.3
200	98	Southnews	200	...	...	1.5	37.0
193	90	Sterling Pub	186	...	...	2.1	22.6
508	328	Telegraph	508	...	...	3.0	21.3
835	715	Thomson Corp	795	...	30.1	4.7	39.7
438	313	Trinity Intl	437	...	9.0	2.6	26.2
39	21	Unit Group	33	...	...	...	...
685	480½	Utd Nwspapers	652	-9	...	4.1	18.1

OILS, GAS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37	17	Aran Energy	27½	-½	...	...	26.8
61	33	Arcon Intl	44	...	...	...	...
71	41½	Aus Oil & Gas	62	...	...	...	...
83	26	Aviva Pet	62	...	...	...	...
16	3½	Beverley	7½	...	...	...	74.6
223	145	Br Borneo	212	+1	7.1	4.2	6.4
361½	276	British Gas	335½	-7	14.2	5.3	16.2
378½	225	Br Petroleum	359	-3½	8.4	2.9	28.2
2½	1	Bula Resources	2½	+½	...	...	...
866	675	Burmah Castrl	831	-4	...	3.8	19.4
68	32	Cairn Energy	60	...	...	...	8.6
338	223	Calor Gp	331	-1	...	4.5	18.1
60½	32½	Clyde Pet	48	+1	...	...	...
44	27	Copley Res	28	-1	...	...	...
27½	10½	Edin Oil & Gas	20½	...	...	...	...
521	397	Enterprise	487	-9	...	4.5	24.6
88	26	Exp Co Louis	34	...	...	...	...
34½	18½	Fairhaven Intl	26	...	...	4.5	8.7
10½	4	Fortune	4½	-½	...	...	...
67	45	Goal Pet	55	...	1.4	3.2	10.5
46	18	Gt Western Res	38	...	...	...	...
181	104½	Hardy O & G	159	...	...	0.8	14.8
47	18½	Kelt Energy	46	+5	...	...	...
195	97	LASMO	119½	-1½	...	3.5	24.2
103	63	-do- Units	68	...	9.4	17.4	...
24	2	Mid Scot Res	2½	...	...	...	...
57	34	Monument	55½	...	...	...	...
9½	4	New London	4½	...	...	...	...
33	21	Nth Sea Assets	29	...	1.0	4.3	10.0
50	27	Oil Search	47	-3	...	...	...
20	11½	Petrol	19	-1	...	...	...
162	99	Pict Pet	158	...	...	...	...
29½	18	Premier	22	...	...	...	8.1
168	50	Presidio	158	...	...	4.2	...
410	290	Ranger	340	...	...	4.8	...
7700	5150	Royal Dtch Ft	7125	-50	...	4.3	17.7
4500	3600	Schlumberger	4000	+25	...	2.0	...
67	47	Seafield	57	...	...	...	...
749	515	Shell	710	-15	22.8	4.0	21.4
203	173	Sunrise Eng Sv	185	...	...	...	...
41	15	Triton Europe	20	...	...	...	...
19½	6	Villiers Grp	15½	...	...	...	...
208	135	Woodside	192	-8	...	1.9	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
182	120	AG Holdings	182	...	...	3.6	16.5
437	249	API	437	...	8.2	2.4	∞
268	144	Arjo Wiggins	268	+5	...	3.0	43.3
556	408	Abbott Mead	556	+3	4.5	2.1	29.2
40	13	Aegis Gp	21½	...	...	...	...
212	118	Aspen Comm	169	...	...	3.6	15.1
26	7	BBB Design	26	...	...	...	...
430	223	Benrose	430	+2	...	3.4	19.2
30½	7	Birndale	9½	...	...	...	...
166	118	Bunzl	166	+3	4.0	3.0	25.0
430	257	CIA Gp	428	...	...	1.3	27.0
230	90	Capital Inds	137	...	...	3.3	13.1
92	44	City of Lon	85	...	...	5.7	15.7
322	169	Cropper (James)	321	...	5.2	1.3	31.0
95	51	Delyn Group	89	...	1.6	2.3	12.0
120	94	Dolphin Pack	106	...	4.5	5.3	26.2
87	42	Dudley Jenkins	76	-1	...	5.3	17.1
16½	10½	Elswick	15½	...	...	2.5	17.1
86	41	Fairway Group	85	...	3.2	4.8	35.1
373	271	Ferguson Intl	373	...	...	4.2	18.4
137	92	Ferry Pick	137	...	...	5.1	37.0
197	74	Filofax	189	-1	...	1.0	24.3
20	10½	Finch	11½	...	...	...	...
154	69	Gibbon Lyons	141	...	...	4.6	15.9
295	205	Gold Greenlees	246	+2	6.4	4.4	21.9
41	17	Goodhead	23 †	...	0.0	0.3	∞
88	19	Hunterprint	25	...	...	...	...
185	136	Intereurope	161	...	...	6.1	11.6
288	195	Jarvis Porter	288	...	...	2.1	26.9
32	19½	Lopex	26	...	...	...	...
38½	26	MMI	34	...	...	...	...
384	175	More O'Ferrall	384	+1	13.2	4.3	46.0
133	44	NMC Group	130	...	2.7	2.6	20.1
253	66	Osborne & Little	253	+4	...	2.5	27.8
540	455	Portals	539	...	...	3.4	18.6
3½	¼	Premier Hlth	2	...	...	...	...
302	159	Quarto	301	...	...	2.4	18.5
348	270	St Ives Gp	348	+6	...	2.0	23.0
186	133	Saatchi	149	+1	...	...	...
502	292	Sappi	479	-13	...	6.9	9.0
26	8½	Serif	26	...	...	...	...
32½	14	Shandwick	27½	...	...	...	...
466	294	Smith David	466	-10	...	2.7	24.3
330	206	Smurfit (Jeff)	328	-1	...	1.6	7.9
103	45	Somic	103	...	2.5	3.0	42.2
246	183	Sun-Plan	220	...	8.4	4.8	19.6
28½	16½	Taylor Nelson	25½	-½	0.3	1.6	21.4
131	38	VTR	151	+1	...	3.6	19.7
106	40	WPP	104	+2	...	1.2	3.9
221	62	Wace	221	+4	...	0.6	...
265	203	Waddington (J)	257	+1	...	3.9	19.3
438	270	Watmough	438	+14	...	1.7	34.3
7	3	Westport	4	+½	...	...	...
44	12	Whitney Mck	39	-3	...	...	...
102	55	Wyndeham	100 †	...	...	1.9	21.4

PROPERTY

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
121	41	Allied Lon	121	+3	...	3.6	31.4
47	35	Arcadian	40	...	...	...	...
16½	4½	Ascot Hldgs	7	-½	...	...	...
139	52	Asda	139	+1	...	1.9	14.6
152	88	Avonside	152	+2	4.1	3.4	21.2
2637½	2062½	BCE	2350	+25	...	...	...
710	396	Bilton	710	+2	18.9	3.3	25.7
89	17	Bourne End	87	+5	...	1.4	...
273	150	Bradford	264	-1	5.9	2.8	26.7
23	5	Bredero	16½	...	...	...	...
449	166½	Br Land	405 †	+6	...	2.2	36.9
250	149½	Brixton	240	...	...	4.4	19.0
109	42	Burford	104	-1	...	1.6	...
204	99	Cap & Regnl	204	+2	...	0.8	...
230	120	Cardiff Prop	230	...	2.4	1.3	...
598	196	Chesterfield	584	...	11.5	2.5	41.8
43	12	City Site Ests	37	...	...	...	...
35	12	Clarke Nickolls	29	...	...	...	...
548	285	Compco	285	...	12.9	6.0	61.8
53	34	Conrad Rhlat GS	44	...	...	...	...
1490	818	Daejan	1485	...	...	2.3	18.3
65	5	Dares Estates	7½	...	...	...	...
143	53	Debenham Twsn	142	...	...	2.9	27.4
17	4	De Morgan	16	...	...	...	...
180	76	Dencora	180	...	3.0	2.1	...
686	363	Derwent Hldgs	684	...	8.7	1.6	...
45	10	Development Sec	35½	-1	...	...	...
56	24	Dwyer	54	...	...	...	...
400	170	Estates Agency	370	...	...	2.6	43.9
27	7½	Estates Gen	23	...	...	...	...
120	66	Evans Of Leeds	119 #	...	...	2.5	21.0
36½	11	Five Oaks	36	...	...	...	...
67	30	Fletcher King	66	...	1.0	1.9	43.4
515	276½	Frogmore	503	...	...	4.0	24.2
253	97	Grainger	253	+2	5.2	2.6	∞
236	116½	Gr Portland	226	-4	...	4.4	21.6
20	3½	Greycoat	19	...	...	...	...
269	101	HK Land	214	-6	...	3.0	28.2
94	35	Hambro Cntyw	86	-2	0.5	0.7	...
422	233	Hammerson	374	-7	10.0	3.3	38.5
326	127	Helical Bar	334	+1	...	1.9	11.6
39	19	Hemingway	37	+1	...	...	...
132	56	Herring Baker	60	...	3.7	7.8	15.1
153	133	Jermyn	133	...	...	...	...
802	435	Land Sec	740	-5	23.1	3.9	22.1
114	73	Lon Merch Sec	108 †	+1	4.0	4.6	16.8
22½	8½	Lon & Metro	11	...	...	...	...
565	315½	MEPC	497	...	...	5.0	35.0
11½	5	McInerney A	11½	+1	...	...	...
170	90	McKay Secs	170	...	3.5	2.6	23.3
2½	2	Markheath	2½	...	...	...	...
81	12	Merivale Mre	79	...	...	...	...
55	29	Moorfield Est	49	+½	...	...	...
1370	775	Mountview	1280	-90	22.0	2.2	13.3
181	112	Muckow (A&J)	181	...	...	4.2	28.2
53	30	Olives Prop	50	-1	...	...	...
10½	1½	ORB	1½	-½	...	...	0.1
180	88	PSIT	179	+1	4.3	3.1	35.1
367	138	Peel	366	...	4.0	1.4	...
16	4	Power Corp	9½	-½	...	...	...
50	22	Property Trust	45	-6	...	...	12.3
63	35	Raglan	41	...	...	...	...
35½	11	Regalian	34½	...	...	...	...
140	110	Rowlinson Secs	140	...	1.5	1.3	17.5
51	16	St Modwen Prp	51	...	0.9	2.2	38.9
75	39	Savile Grdn (J)	68	-2	...	5.0	33.4
100	39	Savills	96½	-2½	1.7	2.3	37.9
112	33½	Scot Met	103	...	...	1.8	∞
127	39	Shaftesbury	127	+1	...	...	...
15½	5	Shield	13½	...	...	...	7.1
290	139½	Slough Estates	264	...	...	3.8	18.5
101	56	Southend Prop	93 †	-3	...	3.2	...
34	16	Stanhope Prps	25	...	...	...	...
231	114	Tops Ests	230	...	2.1	1.2	...
141	79	Town Centre	140	...	...	3.0	25.1
98	43	Trafford Park	98	...	...	3.6	22.6
56	17	UK Land	31	...	...	...	...
12	4	Union Square	9½	...	...	...	...
314	180	Warner	312	-2	10.4	4.2	28.5
235	168	Warnford	235	+1	7.5	4.0	17.0
8	2	Waterglade	2½	...	...	...	...
95	34	Wates	90	...	...	...	...
98	40	Wood John Da	93	-1	...	...	...

SHOES, LEATHER

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
32	11	Automagic	32	...	...	...	...
210	84	Headlam	203	-1	...	1.8	45.8
300	285	Lambert	315	...	13.2	5.3	7.7
100	44	Pittards	72	...	1.5	2.6	30.6
30	20	Strong & Fisher	22½	...	1.0	5.6	6.3
248	89	Stylo	244	-3	...	1.5	...
66	53	UK Safety	57	...	...	5.7	1.9

TEXTILES

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
529	408	Allied Text	529	...	12.7	3.0	17.0
69	54	Beckman (A)	61	...	3.5	7.3	∞
41	21	Bolton Gp	27	...	...	...	...
226	141	Br Mohair	217	-5	8.5	4.9	20.3
53	15	Chartwell	41	+1	...	...	...
364	298	Claremont Ga	338	+3	7.5	2.8	21.1
601	449	Courtauld Text	524	+7	13.9	3.3	14.3
57½	24	Cupid	25½	+½	...	...	...
248½	130	Dawson	147	-3	...	6.5	11.2
47	22	Drummond	36	...	...	...	...
89	65	Faupel	78 †	...	...	7.9	12.1
34	15	Foster (John)	27	...	...	...	...
133	82	Gaskell	114	...	4.2	4.7	...
249	156	Hicking Pntcst	244	-1	...	2.2	17.3
90	45	Jerome (S)	67	...	...	0.4	...
432	249	Lamont	414	...	12.0	3.6	27.4
515	353½	Leeds	506	...	8.5	2.1	∞
64	15	Lister	53	...	0.1	0.2	...
122	73	Lyles (S)	99	...	...	4.2	...
215	89	Magelian	161	...	1.4	1.1	...
223	77½	Parkland	223	...	...	0.9	...
102½	82	Readicut	99½	...	...	4.3	18.7
60	35	SEET	59	...	...	...	...
147	72	Sirdar	133	+1	...	5.0	9.2
72	44	Stirling Gp	60	-1	1.9	4.0	16.6
51	35	Stoddard	42	...	...	4.5	39.1
312	250	Tomkinsons	285	+5	11.5	5.0	∞
59	30½	West Trust	40	+3	...	8.4	...
256	126	Yorklyde	256	...	...	3.6	16.8

TOBACCOS

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
570	407	BAT	518	-8	...	4.6	15.5
495	315½	Rothmans	468	+1	...	3.3	14.7

TRANSPORT

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
580	349	Assoc Br Ports	577	-2	...	1.9	...
1072	707	BAA	1041	-11	...	2.0	25.8
486	249	Br Airways	482	+3	...	2.8	21.6
113	56	Clarkson (H)	99	...	1.7	2.2	...
665	332	Eurotunnel Uts	615	-3	...	...	...
82	44	Fisher (James)	73	...	0.5	0.9	10.6
277	147	IoM Steam	276	...	...	3.8	14.5
46	24	Jacobs (JI)	46	...	0.5	1.4	...
107	41	Lon O'Seas Frts	104	-1	...	1.3	19.0
475	264	Mersey Docks	460	+6	...	2.4	31.3
271	181	Natl Express	255	...	...	3.5	26.4
272	218	NFC	262	+1	...	3.3	20.3
343	244	Ocean Group	313	...	...	5.7	...
78	40	Ocean Wilson	78	...	4.0	6.4	14.1
676	504	P & O Dfd	623	+6	...	6.1	33.8
194	127	P & O 5 1/2%	156	...	...	4.4	...
668	446	Powell Duffryn	658	+3	...	4.3	30.9
235	117	Seacon	233	-2	...	2.9	14.7
176	112	Stagecoach	175	...	...	2.7	21.3
101	31½	TNT	100½	+½	...	...	...
858	624	Tibbett & Britn	845	+2	12.6	1.9	32.4
382	37	Tiphook	69	+3	...	...	...
298	227	TDG	286	+1	...	4.1	9.5

WATER

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
610	455	Anglian Water	566	+7	...	4.8	11.3
350	244	Mid Kent Hdgs	350	...	...	3.8	12.9
761	547	Northumbrian	721	+4	...	4.0	8.5
604	431½	North West	570	+10	...	4.8	9.4
632	439	Severn Trent	595	+1	...	4.5	9.2
665	454	Sthrn Water	630 †	...	...	4.3	10.1
1605	1225	Sth Staffs	1550	...	48.5	3.9	11.0
657	466	South West	637	+8	...	4.8	10.3
598	454	Thames Water	579	+7	...	4.6	11.2
735	506	Welsh Water	696	+18	...	4.3	7.0
745	536	Wessex Water	696 †	+6	...	4.0	11.1
630	473½	Yorkshire W	592	+5	...	4.6	9.8

Source: Finstat

▲ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ‡ Ex all; ‡ Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
102[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 8½% 1994	100[illegible] †	...	8.48	...
109¼	101½	Treas 14½% 1994	101[illegible]	...	14.33	5.21
109[illegible]	101[illegible]	Exch 13½% 1994	102[illegible]	...	13.20	5.21
105[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 10% 1994	101[illegible]	...	9.81	5.12
110[illegible]	104½	Exch 12½% 1994	104½	...	11.98	5.07
105[illegible]	103¼	Treas 9% 1994	103¼	...	8.72	5.07
111[illegible]	106[illegible]	Treas 12% 1995	106[illegible] xd	...	11.22	5.07
98	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	98	...	3.06	4.77
109[illegible]	107[illegible]	Exch 10¼% 1995	107[illegible] xd	...	9.54	5.16
116½	113	Treas 12¾% 1995	113	-[illegible]	11.28	5.26
120½	116[illegible]	Treas 14% 1996	116[illegible] xd	-[illegible]	12.02	5.32
125½	121[illegible]	Treas 15¼% 1996	121[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.59	5.41
120[illegible]	115¼	Exch 13¼% 1996	117	-[illegible]	11.32	5.41
112½	108½	Conv 10% 1996	111[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.96	5.54
122[illegible]	118½	Treas 13¼% 1997	120½ †	-[illegible]	10.96	5.60
114[illegible]	110[illegible]	Exch 10½% 1997	113½	-[illegible]	9.25	5.67
110½	105½	Treas 8¾% 1997	109½	-[illegible]	7.96	5.70
132[illegible]	127[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	130[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.48	5.85
114[illegible]	109[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	113[illegible] xd	-[illegible]	8.57	5.84
106[illegible]	99[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	105[illegible]	-[illegible]	6.87	5.76
106[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 7¼% B 1998	105½	-[illegible]	6.88	5.77
102½	97[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	101[illegible]	...	6.63	5.32
131½	129[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	130[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.76	6.04
140[illegible]	133[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	139[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.15	5.87
129[illegible]	118½	Exch 12% 1998	124[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.63	6.07
116[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	115[illegible] †	-[illegible]	8.25	5.95

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101[illegible]	98½	Treas 6% 1999	100[illegible] xd	-[illegible]	6.05	5.84
128½	120[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	126[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.65	6.13
121½	112[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	120½	-[illegible]	8.74	6.03
121½	112[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	120½	-[illegible]	8.53	6.10
116½	106	Conv 9% 2000	114[illegible]	-½	7.84	6.07
136[illegible]	125½	Treas 13% 2000	135[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.62	6.33
106½	97[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	104[illegible]	-[illegible]	6.89	6.19
122[illegible]	109[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	120[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.29	6.36
123[illegible]	108½	Treas 9¾% 2002	121½	-[illegible]	8.03	6.47
113[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	111[illegible]	-½	7.16	6.33
127[illegible]	109½	Treas 10% 2003	125[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.99	6.46
129[illegible]	116½	Treas 11½% 2001-04	127½	-[illegible]	8.99	6.57
86[illegible]	67[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	84[illegible]	-½	4.14	5.45
105[illegible]	97½	Treas 6¾% 2004	103[illegible]	-[illegible]	6.54	6.31
125[illegible]	105½	Conv 9½% 2004	123[illegible]	-½	7.72	6.48
125[illegible]	105[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	123[illegible]	-½	7.69	6.51
143[illegible]	124[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	141[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.85	6.71
111½	94[illegible]	Treas 8% 2002-06	109[illegible]	-½	7.28	6.48
112[illegible]	94[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	110[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.03	6.52
139½	118[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	134 †	-[illegible]	8.77	6.67
119[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	116[illegible] xd	-[illegible]	7.27	6.58
151[illegible]	131[illegible]	Treas 13½% 2004-08	149[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.05	6.75
124[illegible]	101½	Treas 9% 2008	122[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.36	6.61

LONGS (over 15 years)

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
115[illegible]	92[illegible]	Treas 8% 2009	113[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.06	6.63
126[illegible]	100½	Conv 9% 2011	124[illegible] †	-[illegible]	7.25	6.65
127[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	125¼ †	-[illegible]	7.20	6.64
94	70½	Treas 5½% 2008-12	91½	-[illegible]	6.01	6.29
114½	89½	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	112½ †	-½	6.88	6.55
117½	93[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	115[illegible]	-½	6.95	6.62
159[illegible]	125[illegible]	Exch 12% 2013-17	156[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.68	6.80
128[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	125[illegible]	-[illegible]	6.96	6.59

UNDATED

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
54½	38½	War Ln 3½%	52[illegible]	-½	6.61	...
37½	27[illegible]	Treas 2½%	36½	-½	6.87	...

INDEX-LINKED

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
136[illegible]	131½	Treas IL 2% 1994	136[illegible]	...	...	...
204½	194[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 1996	202[illegible]	-[illegible]	1.15	2.07
115[illegible]	109[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	112[illegible]	-[illegible]	1.34	1.97
176½	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	174½	-[illegible]	2.22	2.58
173[illegible]	155	Treas IL 2½% 2003	171[illegible]	-[illegible]	2.44	2.73
118½	105½	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	116[illegible]	-[illegible]	2.40	2.74
184½	159½	Treas IL 2% 2006	181[illegible]	-[illegible]	2.54	2.70
168[illegible]	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	165[illegible]	-[illegible]	2.72	2.91
175[illegible]	148[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	172[illegible]	-1[illegible]	2.79	2.96
146½	122½	Treas IL 2½% 2013	142[illegible]	-[illegible]	2.83	2.98
157½	130[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	153½ †	-1½	2.88	3.03
152[illegible]	124[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	148½	-1½	2.90	3.05
129½	103½	Treas IL 2½% 2024	125[illegible] †	-1½	2.92	3.03
128[illegible]	103½	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	124[illegible]	-1½	2.94	3.06

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
51 Belmont Rd, Uxbridge, Middx. UB8 1HZ
0895 259 783

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Grofund Amer	168.80	177.70	- 0.60	...
Grofund Equity	250.20	264.80	- 0.80	1.42
Grofund Euro	199.70	210.20	- 2.20	...
Grofund Exp Bal	123.60	129.10	+ 0.80	1.22
Grofund Glt	82.45	85.00	- 0.04	4.29
Grofund Japan	161.80	170.40	- 0.90	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
Equity & Law Hse. Corpn St. Coventry
0203 523 231

General Acc	541.90	576.50	- 4.80	2.13
General Inc	488.10	519.30	- 4.40	2.13
UK Growth Acc	370.30	394.00	- 3.20	2.27
UK Growth Inc	359.20	375.90	- 2.30	2.27
Higher Inc Acc	698.70	743.30	- 3.30	3.16
Higher Inc Inc	417.80	444.50	- 1.40	3.16
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	195.80	208.70	- 0.20	5.40
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	100.10	108.70	- 0.10	5.40
Nth America	252.60	270.40	- 0.50	...
Far East	339.10	360.80	- 5.70	0.04
Europe	368.20	385.40	- 3.10	0.58
Brit Excell	73.73	78.44	- 1.68	2.40
Brit Fndmtls Acc	105.80	112.60	- 0.20	3.90
Brit Fndmtls Inc	80.35	85.45	- 0.22	3.98
Global Opps	83.93	89.29	- 1.14	...
Balanced Acc	55.57	59.12	- 0.44	2.18
Balanced Inc	55.07	58.59	- 0.44	2.18

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
80 Holdenhurst Rd. Bournemouth 0345 717 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	141.40	149.90	- 0.10	5.34
High Inc Equity	174.10	185.70	- 0.40	4.24
Worldwide Bond	271.50	287.90	- 0.80	7.65
Capital Growth				
American Growth	312.10	333.70	...	.95
Asian Pacific	357.30	382.10	- 23.20	.24
Assets & Earnings	272.60	289.90	- 0.20	1.88
Comdty & Energy	127.80	136.60	- 0.80	.40
1992 Enterprise	94.33	100.80	- 0.80	1.90
Euro Capital Inc	127.10	135.90	- 1.70	.71
General	241.20	258.50	- 1.60	2.12
Japan	146.00	156.00	- 0.70	...
Mastertrust	142.00	151.85	- 1.70	1.23
UK Growth Dist	138.80	147.60	...	1.94
US Emerging Cos	137.20	145.90	- 0.10	...
Income & Growth	406.40	432.30	- 2.50	3.03
Ethical	75.38	80.19	- 0.39	2.27
International	115.20	123.00	- 1.90	.41
Dividend & Growth	64.53	68.64	- 0.16	4.09
Global Gwth & Inc	64.54	68.65	- 0.02	2.77

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
14 Melville St. Edinburgh EH3 7NS
031 220 6733

UK Small Cos	1722.0	1798.0	+52.00	...

ASTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ
0800 833 599

Aberdeen Portfolio	63.27	64.47*	- 0.60	0.77
Amer Inc & Growth	45.95	48.65	- 0.11	0.65
Cash	90.23	90.23*	...	4.78
European	103.95	110.20	- 1.09	...
European Income	97.50	103.50*	- 0.76	1.45
Exempt	1061.7	1111.8*	- 2.20	3.43
Extra Income	52.26	60.17*	- 0.34	4.38
Far East Emrg Ecn	116.70	126.30	- 4.41	0.52
Fixed Interest	25.39	27.10*	- 0.02	6.81
Fund Inv Tst	181.60	193.90	- 2.40	0.87
Japan	187.00	195.00	- 0.50	...
Latin American	75.91	80.70	+ 0.24	0.62
Pacific	73.58	78.81	- 1.99	0.34
Property Share	74.63	79.67*	- 0.29	1.66
UK Emerging Cos	67.16	71.69*	- 0.14	1.74
UK Growth	47.13	50.70	- 0.37	2.32
World Growth	76.68	81.85	- 0.88	0.67
Ethical	68.37	72.98*	- 0.61	2.43
Aberdeen Glt Inc	55.97	59.97*	- 0.02	7.30

ACUMA FUND MANAGERS LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd. Hutton, Essex 0277 690 336

UK Equity Income	97.76	104.00	- 0.20	2.81
UK Equity Growth	86.67	92.26	- 0.05	2.04
European	67.13	71.42	- 0.39	0.63
Nth American	68.79	73.18	- 0.34	0.96
Far Eastern	69.18	73.60*	- 0.13	0.34
Money	68.14	68.14‡	...	3.79
Fixed Interest	74.28	79.05	- 0.05	6.16
Index Linked Gilt	69.70	74.15	- 0.31	1.09

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
126 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF
031 549 3232

British Growth	72.13	76.73	- 0.13	2.29
British Income	81.82	87.05	- 0.04	3.08
Select Portfolio	86.69	92.23	- 1.35	...

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
101 King's Road Brentwood CM14 4DR
0452 305 958

Amity Income	79.43	84.28	- 0.19	1.93
Income Builder Inc	70.87	75.39*	- 0.35	2.68

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL
IFA dlg: 0793 609 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	256.60	274.30	- 0.60	2.75
Capital	442.60	473.10	- 0.40	1.64
Balanced	730.90	781.30*	- 1.00	2.59
Accumulator	1316.0	1404.0	- 3.00	2.73
Income Trusts				
American Income	50.50	53.98	- 0.13	3.30
High Income	449.90	480.90	- 2.00	3.26
Equity Income	230.90	246.80*	- 1.00	3.25
High Yield	276.90	296.00*	- 1.50	3.15
Govt Securities	35.88	37.87	- 0.12	4.83
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	138.00	147.50	- 0.90	0.29
European Growth	33.44	35.55	- 0.36	0.45
International	159.90	170.80	- 1.10	0.35
Japan	197.00	210.20*	+ 1.10	0.01
Pacific	116.10	124.00*	+ 0.60	0.18
Secs of America	435.30	463.00*	+ 2.50	0.60
Wwide Assets Val	46.93	50.14	+ 0.30	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Assets Value	563.80	602.60*	- 0.40	2.08
Conv & Glt	51.51	55.06	- 0.15	3.52
Smaller Cos	179.30	191.60*	+ 0.10	1.22
2nd Smaller Cos	171.30	183.10	+ 0.20	1.20
Recovery	406.40	434.30	- 2.50	3.03
Wrld Min & Cdty	160.90	172.00	- 0.70	0.72
Overs Earnings	368.20	393.60*	- 1.00	2.00
Technology	160.10	171.10	+ 0.50	0.02
UK Special Sits	472.80	505.40	+ 0.60	1.90

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
Manor Royal, Crawley RH10 2QF 0293 526 911

Crmrnt Gen Pens	105.30	109.30	...	1.45
Foundtn Pens Pens	67.91	70.55	...	4.00

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
28 St John's Sq. London EC1M 4AE
071 251 6767

Capital	75.78	80.61*	- 0.75	1.92
International	63.65	67.71	...	0.50

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh EH3 8EY
031 222 4242

America	302.60	320.30	...	...
Bond	129.20	135.90*	...	5.79
Brit Smlr Cos	102.10	108.60	+ 0.30	0.90
Conv & Gen	66.51	70.98	+ 0.05	4.90
Energy	448.40	487.30*	- 1.70	0.24
Europe	222.30	236.30	- 0.30	0.51
Euro Smlr Cos	98.61	104.80	- 0.20	0.92
Income Gwth	364.60	399.10*	- 0.20	3.94
Japan	309.50	329.10	- 2.60	...
Pacific	112.80	120.00*	- 4.30	0.71
UK Smlr Cos	59.46	63.68*	- 0.14	0.86
Japan Fd	716.50	727.10	- 0.40	1.82
Managed	180.30	191.70	- 0.50	2.54

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
36 Queen St. London EC4R 1BN 071 489 9878

Brit & Overs	304.00	320.00	...	5.15
Cap Val Gwth	192.80	129.30	...	2.08
Wwide Oppn	204.30	215.10	...	0.45

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
11 Broadway, Stratford E15 4BJ 081 534 5344
Stamped Trusts

Extr Inv Fd Inc	363.70	378.90	- 2.30	2.44
European Fd Inc	98.94	102.40*	+ 0.10	7.25
Exempt	80.27	83.63	- 0.15	3.88
Financial	77.74	84.21*	- 0.26	2.01
500	473.10	504.70	- 0.40	2.23
General	267.60	307.60	- 1.20	2.19
Property	245.20	262.20*	...	5.65
Trustee	194.80	228.40*	- 0.80	1.94
Calcutta Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.10	100.10*	...	4.61
Gilts & Fxd Int	124.90	133.60	- 0.30	3.85
Gilts & Fxd Int	93.79	100.30*	- 0.01	7.56
Income	575.50	615.90	- 0.70	3.74
Income Builder	70.52	75.03	- 0.01	4.49
Int Income	69.40	73.93*	- 0.92	2.91
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	123.30	131.50	- 0.70	2.38
Leisure	123.30	131.90	- 0.60	1.29
Recovery	431.00	461.00	- 0.80	2.24
Smlr Cos Inc	42.79	45.89	+ 0.02	1.96
Special Sits	292.20	312.50	- 0.20	1.76
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	136.70	146.00	- 0.70	0.15
Asst Acc	268.30	275.00	- 1.00	1.37
Asst Inc	161.80	172.10*	- 1.90	1.37
Euro Gwth Inc	140.30	148.80	- 2.00	0.42
Japan & Gen Inc	169.60	179.60	- 0.40	...
Japan Spec Sits	73.58	78.27	- 0.29	...
Unity Tech Inc	77.24	82.09	- 0.70	0.59
Worldwide	176.30	187.60*	- 2.00	0.51

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 158, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ
092 668 9002

American Growth	101.30	107.50*	...	...
Amer Smlr Cos	133.30	143.50	- 0.30	...
Cash Trust	50.41	50.41	- 0.01	4.90
Convertibles	61.07	65.31‡	+ 0.15	5.60
Eastern	225.60	300.70	+4.30	1.80
Equity Income	96.64	102.80	- 0.30	5.00
European Growth	291.30	309.60	- 3.80	1.50
Europe	209.30	222.60*	- 1.20	1.50
German Growth	73.19	77.80	- 1.25	0.70
Global Bond	70.75	74.67	+ 1.27	5.40
Global Growth	129.10	137.80*	- 1.40	...
Japan Growth	201.40	216.20	- 0.40	...
Japan Smaller	173.80	185.10	+ 0.50	...
Pacific Trust	71.23	76.14	+ 0.20	...
Portfolio	136.40	149.10	- 0.90	3.20
UK Growth	96.45	102.60	- 0.60	2.80
UK Smaller Cos	95.94	102.60	...	1.90
Select Managers	77.16	82.57	- 0.78	2.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
20-24 Old Street, London EC1V 9HL
071 250 3300

Intl Gwth Portf Inc	79.11	84.16	...	...
Special Opps Inc	54.65	58.14	...	...

BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD
5 Gainsper St, London EC1A 9DE 071 236 6441

Special Sits	180.20	192.70	- 1.10	0.49
Dividend	85.68	91.27	+ 0.18	4.27
Int Gwth & Inc	226.60	242.40*	- 1.20	2.99
UK & Gen	46.92	50.18	- 0.22	1.56
Fund of Funds	67.45	72.14	- 0.89	...

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
50 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR
041 225 6020

Balanced Growth	112.33	120.14	- 0.79	1.27
Smaller Cos	102.92	111.14	+ 0.08	0.97
Interest Yield	47.30	50.59*	- 0.02	2.43
American Gth Inc	72.94	78.05	- 0.26	...
European Growth	129.92	138.96	- 0.98	...
Global Bond Inc	31.74	33.98*	- 0.02	4.44
Wrld Ptflo Inc	44.11	47.18	- 0.16	1.02

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
167 Fenchurch St. London EC3M 5AL
071 480 7236

Short Dated Glt	70.20	71.16	- 0.02	4.90

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH
061 837 5060

Environ	155.50	165.50*	- 0.70	1.24
UK Growth	172.50	183.60	- 0.80	1.70
UK Income	143.90	153.10	- 0.30	3.62

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
High St, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA
0707 864 122

Can Gen Dist	194.10	205.70	- 1.70	1.76
-do- Income Dist	117.90	125.00	- 0.40	4.27
Gilt & Fxd Int	45.88	48.63	- 0.02	5.59

For Cannon see Lincoln National

CAPEL-CURE MYÉRS UT MGMT LTD
35 Paradise Street, Manchester M2 2AF
061 236 5685 Enq: 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 5362
Broker Dealings: 0800 454 181

Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	4.70
Stabiliser Growth Range				
Controlled Risk UK	25.28	26.63	+ 0.01	3.03
-do- Europe	24.27	25.58	- 0.12	4.94
-do- America	23.79	25.06	- 0.04	0.47
-do- Acc Japan	25.92	28.41	+ 0.10	0.70
Bond Funds				
Glt & Fxd Int	31.95	32.29*	- 0.04	6.12
Intl Bond	33.33	34.74	- 0.01	4.72
Income Funds				
High Income	29.10	30.77†	- 0.04	4.89
Income Plus	127.50	135.60	- 1.30	3.78
Amer Eq Inc	48.42	51.36	...	1.83
European Income	44.41	47.23	- 0.40	2.97
Far East Inc	64.33	68.64	- 0.85	2.11
Global Convertible	25.20	26.89†	+ 0.03	2.11
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	64.82	66.95	- 3.18	...
American	238.80	250.00	+ 0.80	...
Amer Spec Sits	111.90	119.40	+ 0.20	...
Japan Smaller Cos	37.50	40.01	+ 0.16	...
European	159.30	169.40	+ 0.80	...
European Opps	59.40	63.16	- 0.31	...
UK Growth	89.89	95.58	- 0.04	...
Growth & Inc	160.20	170.40†	- 0.40	2.37
Intl PEP	38.80	39.07	+ 0.26	...
Japan Spec Sits	85.84	89.62	- 0.47	...
Japan	175.90	187.00	- 0.10	...
Managed Intl	268.10	278.10	- 0.90	...
Moneybuilder	51.39	54.82	- 0.35	...
Recovery	44.53	47.35	- 0.01	...
South E Asia	158.00	168.60	- 7.00	...
Special Sits	515.20	547.80	+ 0.20	...
Specialist Funds				
UK Index	114.50	120.60	- 1.60	2.98
UK Reverse Index	72.15	76.08	+ 1.08	4.88
Europe Index	116.60	122.80	- 1.00	4.44
-do- Reverse Index	64.11	68.14	- 0.45	8.45
America Index	102.90	108.30	- 0.40	0.81
-do- Reverse Index	91.44	96.52	- 0.01	0.95
Japan Index	120.90	127.40	- 2.00	0.95
-do- Reverse Index	78.45	82.87	+ 1.25	1.53
Cash Accum Units	104.06	104.06	+ 0.01	4.70

CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS
Capital House, Festival Square, Edinburgh
031 228 4477 Dealing: 0800 833 861

American Gwth Tst	38.03	40.07	+ 0.05	0.90
Cash Income	50.30	50.30	+ 0.01	4.98
European Gwth	39.85	41.42	- 0.50	0.84
Income & Gwth Inc	29.75	31.81	- 0.16	3.89
Intnl Gwth	31.35	33.52	+ 0.32	0.77
Japan Gwth	25.38	27.14	+ 0.09	...
Managed Tst Inc	50.00	53.47	- 1.00	0.49
Oriental Opps Inc	149.00	160.30	- 10	0.61
Property Shares	45.16	48.29†	- 0.23	1.68
Smaller Cos	31.89	34.10	- 0.84	1.55
UK Growth Tst	26.87	28.73	- 0.18	2.62
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Glenal Inc	74.48	79.65	- 0.45	1.61
Cap Hse UK Inc	70.63	75.54	- 0.65	2.26
Exempt	23.59	26.28	...	...
Formerly Brown Shipley				
European Inc	25.82	27.40	- 0.53	0.39
European Acc	26.57	28.41	- 0.56	0.39
Financial	158.00	168.90	- 0.40	2.41
Foundation	93.06	99.52	- 0.15	2.56
German	93.44	51.94	- 0.85	0.07
High Income	82.12	87.82†	- 0.23	5.81
Income	141.10	150.90	+ 0.30	3.65
Intl Growth	37.75	40.37	- 0.34	0.16
Mngd Ptfolio Inc	107.90	115.40	- 0.60	1.60
Mngd Ptfolio Acc	205.30	219.50	- 1.20	1.60
Monthly Income	86.16	92.14†	- 0.17	3.49
North American	109.60	117.20†	+ 0.70	0.15
Orient	145.40	155.50	- 1.20	...

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH
071 606 0708

Cazenove Portfolio	83.63	89.43†	- 0.38	2.12
American Portfolio	91.50	97.59*	+ 0.40	0.99
European Portfolio	93.02	99.27	- 0.94	1.00
Japanese Portfolio	63.33	67.41	- 0.24	...
Pacific Portfolio	149.30	157.38†	- 0.46	0.65
UK Inc & Growth	77.02	82.47	- 0.18	3.58
Utility & Bond	59.88	60.60	+ 0.13	5.91

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
5 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BA 071 332 5000

UK General Tst	67.53	71.83	- 0.45	2.78
Global Tst	61.82	65.76	- 0.67	0.28
Recovery Tst	71.81	76.39	- 0.31	1.72

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
151 Farringdon Rd. London EC1R 3AD
071 837 7646

Intl Growth	149.90	162.08†	...	...
UK Growth	111.52	120.50	...	1.08
UK Income	113.50	123.25†	...	3.95

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

Beckmann Intl	93.03	98.24	...	1.70
Beck. Bio-Tech	41.63	44.29†	- 0.32	...
Acorn Ethical Tst	164.92	173.60†	...	1.22
City Fin Assets	75.31	79.27	...	1.55
City Fin America	81.16	85.43	...	...
City Fin Intl	77.81	81.91	...	0.48
City Fin Japan	155.85	164.05	...	...
Friars Hse Cap	283.82	300.34†	...	2.17
Friars Hse Inc	210.91	223.19	...	4.68
Buckley Wrld Gwth	144.33	153.54	...	0.65
Fairmnis Cap Gn	140.96	148.38	- 8.15	...
-do- Inc & Gth	116.82	124.76	- 1.24	1.55
Fairmount Intl	161.42	169.92	- 5.62	...
City Fin Ptflo Inc	63.07	67.10†	+ 0.09	2.47

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
10 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AJ 0392 422 144
Emerging Markets 58.13 61.68 - 2.26 ...

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373 393

Australian Gwth	58.48	63.05	- 0.11	0.11
Asian Mngd Gwth	37.35	40.16	- 0.22	0.05
Dragon Growth	73.76	78.89	- 3.33	0.48
Equity High Inc	87.87	93.29	- 0.67	3.30
European Gwth	49.21	52.21	- 0.58	0.66
Evergreen	30.31	32.42	- 0.09	0.49
General Equity	87.61	92.95	- 0.71	2.04
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.74	29.15†	- 0.03	7.89
Japan Growth	44.85	48.40	- 0.06	...
Pacific Growth	32.34	34.45	- 0.01	0.74
Pnl Sm Cos Inc	33.71	34.71	- 0.03	0.74
Retirement Inc	27.84	29.94	- 0.14	4.96
Special Sits	38.16	40.81	- 0.20	1.75
UK & Overseas	49.65	52.68	- 0.55	1.05

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
Charlton Maritime, Kent ME4 4YT
0634 899 000

Capital	67.58	72.28	- 0.40	2.66
Income	64.80	69.31	- 0.28	3.59

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park,
Croydon CR0 2AQ 081 686 9818
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)

Income Funds				
Equity Inc	176.36	187.62	+ 0.14	4.71
Fixed & Convertible	47.09	50.10†	- 0.08	5.67
Monthly Inc Plus	54.28	57.74	- 0.08	5.78
Preference Shares	53.00	56.48†	+ 0.02	6.73
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	139.22	148.11†	- 0.17	5.55
Managed Fund	70.02	74.49	- 0.57	2.71
Unit Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	42.72	45.45	- 0.02	1.81
UK & General	81.47	86.67	- 0.57	2.50
UK Growth	141.36	150.38	- 1.03	1.59
International Growth Funds				
European Growth	183.58	195.30	- 1.36	...
Far Eastern Gwth	135.76	144.43	- 5.28	0.29
Global Bond	88.29	93.81	+ 0.03	5.70
Japan Growth	113.57	120.82	- 0.17	...
North American Gwth	164.36	175.06	- 0.61	...
Oriental Growth	83.06	88.36	- 3.20	...
Worldwide Growth	64.21	68.31	- 0.18	0.25
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Interpath Fund	92.40	92.48	- 0.01	4.69
Homemaker Fund	79.27	84.33	- 0.56	1.82
Quilter Fund	142.18	151.26	- 1.90	1.96

CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD
Lyons Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN
0438 744 848

Growth Inc	60.30	64.19	- 0.47	2.40
High Income	35.74	38.07	- 0.15	4.00
Japan	32.95	35.05	- 0.13	...
Smaller Cos Inc	31.73	33.75	- 0.03	2.10
Smaller Cos	33.02	35.12	- 0.05	2.10
North American	33.18	35.29	- 0.01	0.50
European	34.52	36.85	- 0.13	0.50

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 1NX
071 407 5966

Consistent UT	37.35	35.72	- 0.05	4.14

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
1 King St, Manchester M60 3AH 0800 526 388

Growth	143.00	154.30	...	1.82
Income	78.92	83.96	- 0.10	4.08
European	58.67	62.42*	- 0.62	0.78
Recovery	139.60	148.60	- 0.10	1.55

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
78-80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NJ 071 283 9494

Equity Dist	865.60	879.90†	...	3.45

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
0277 690 369

Sterling Fd Tst	73.69	78.40	- 0.01	1.56
Income	250.60	266.40	- 1.20	3.14
Smaller Cos	145.10	154.40†	- 0.90	0.63
Inv Portfolio	79.72	84.81	- 0.19	1.80
High Income Port	71.20	75.53	- 0.30	3.38

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XS
071 638 1981

Euro Small Cos	147.4	149.2†	+ 7.60	...
Japan Small Cos	110.9	111.9†	+55.30	...
UK Small Cos	178.0	185.7†	-99.30	...
US Small Cos	160.3	168.8	- 1.90	...

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
66 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL
071 377 0889

Disc Inc	197.90	208.30	...	2.72

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
25, Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh 031 315 2500

European Gwth	349.70	364.00	- 1.70	1.14
New Asia	221.60	239.60	- 7.20	0.33
Japan Growth	116.60	123.90	- 0.30	...
Japan Smlr Co	479.00	500.00	- 2.30	1.37
Nth Amer	249.20	263.00	- 1.20	0.93
Shlrd Asia Pac Ml	124.90	132.10	- 3.80	0.48
UK Inc & Gwth	228.70	244.50	- 1.00	3.32

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 527 555

UK Balanced Inc	145.00	154.30	- 0.50	2.23
UK High Inc Inc	152.90	173.30	- 0.20	4.29
UK Pref & Fixed Int	64.81	68.72	- 0.04	6.41
Envrnmntl Opps	83.84	89.19	- 0.47	1.38

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
37 Hanover Street, Edinburgh
0345 696 526

American	121.20	130.90	+ 0.50	0.15
Commodities	26.41	28.94†	+ 0.02	7.52
Equity Income	141.60	150.50†	- 0.40	3.32
EuroFund	94.61	97.29†	- 0.61	0.86
Financial	87.10	93.45	- 0.41	1.44
Growth & Inc	247.30	265.30	- 1.20	2.85
High Dist	169.20	179.80	- 0.50	4.17
International	384.30	408.30	- 3.10	0.54
Intl Income	96.89	103.40†	- 1.30	2.51
Latin American	51.34	54.44	+ 0.52	0.23
Pacific	89.65	95.07	- 1.84	...
Preference Share	25.91	27.53†	- 0.06	5.63
Tokyo	201.60	214.00	- 1.70	...
UK Smaller Cos	237.60	252.40	+ 0.80	0.93

ELCON LTD
Central Ct, Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0JA
0689 70838

Elcon Trust	225.10	240.20	...	...

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU
071 373 7361

Endurance Fd	205.70	219.80	- 2.10	0.39

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Wellins St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 2QN
0296 431 696

European	76.44	80.45	- 1.31	1.64
Far Eastern	315.15	331.74	- 5.43	1.26
High Income	141.61	149.08	+ 0.06	4.11
Intl Growth	124.82	131.39	- 0.40	0.97
North American	119.74	126.04	- 0.14	1.02
Pacific	123.15	129.63	- 0.34	2.82
Smaller Cos	75.43	79.40†	- 0.16	1.90
Special Sits	95.07	100.07	- 0.25	1.66
Tst of Inv Tsts	102.05	202.16	- 1.27

INFOTECH

A new database of government information should make research much easier, **Max Glaskin** reports

From dead parrots to sheep dips

John Cleese might have avoided that parrot sketch with the pet shop salesman if only he had known about the Register of Sellers of Dead Birds held by the Department of the Environment.

Likewise, Worzel Gummidge could have enjoyed early retirement in the corner of some foreign field if only he had taken advantage of the Hedgerow Incentive Scheme run by the Countryside Commission.

All this information exists — and much, much, more — but few people know about it. Government departments hold millions of records on thousands of databases. They cover everything in Britain from milk licences to murder statistics, from sheep dips to information on company receivers.

With so many numbers and so much data, researchers find it hard to see the wood for the trees — a task not helped by the Forestry Commission's own arboreal census records.

Things should be easier from Monday when details of about 450 government databases are to be listed on one computerised directory.

The Ordnance Survey (OS) has been appointed to manage it because all the files listed contain geographical information — either in national grid reference form, latitude and longitude, postcodes or simple addresses.

The biggest problem for industrial, political and academic researchers has always been to find out who holds what government information and how it can be extracted. The OS directory will show which files could be useful and how to get hold of them. For the first time, there will be a central starting point for researchers into United Kingdom government and public body information.

Trevor Mouncey, the OS customer information manager, says: "It will start with telephonists, but we are considering the setting up of a bulletin board so that enquirers with a computer and modem can run their own searches."

When the system goes live, the OS will start with three networked personal computers running customised software which will try and pick the best answers to match imprecise queries fielded by the telephonists.

It has already been used for a year to handle the 3,000 general geographical questions received by the OS every month and can store the 250,000 place name details of the main OS national gazetteer.

> Many files exist, but few people know about them

Over the past two years, government departments have been trawled to find what data they hold that is not restricted. Since the operation has been co-ordinated from within the Department of the Environment, it is not surprising that the DoE itself has been the most forthcoming with 150 files, including air, water and noise pollution statistics, ancient monument records, endangered species export licence details, geological surveys and loans for rural development.

The register of chicken sheds is one of dozens of files cleared by Northern Ireland, and the Ministry of Defence logs its mapping, weather and radio signal files.

The Departments of Social Security and Transport list 60 files between them and the Home Office comes clean with another 20. Yet, even while the Department of Energy, which expired last year, gamely manages to list three files from beyond the grave, the Treasury has not found a single document in its vaults that it wants on this new public catalogue.

Although there is no charge to use the system, which should help you to find the right government file — apart, of course, from the cost of the phone call to the OS in Southampton — that does not mean that reading the file itself will be free. There is already a price on some information and the fact that the database has emerged from the DoE's Tradeable Information Initiative may bode ill for the future.

● *From Monday, the helpline number for the new service, is 0703 792711.*



Dipping sheep down on the farm: now treatment sites will be listed

Not too close, dummy

A new gadget can tell when children are too near the TV

Americans look to the annual Consumer Electronic Show, held in Las Vegas last weekend, as a showcase for the gadgets and gizmos that will fire the nation's interest for the year to come.

Most of the products are launched by multinationals keen to muscle in on the growing home technology market. But, in the corners of the vast Las Vegas Convention Centre some of the offerings from less familiar members of the industry show that ingenuity and that long beloved American quality, wackiness, are still in vogue.

Megarec, a small company with products which included a $10 recordable birthday card and a baby's dummy with a built-in electronic thermometer, launched TV-Kid. This is a device for parents worried that their children sit too close to the television whenever they are left unsupervised. You key in a minimum distance from which the youngsters can watch, and, if they get too close, the unit issues a warning beep until they are out of range again.

One of the more popular TV related products was Commercial Brake from Arista, an add-on for a video recorder which skips over the advertising breaks when you replay a tape.

Commercial Brake guesses from the codes, formats and fast changes of TV advertising what is, and what is not, an advert and fast-forwards the tape. Instead of the ads, you see a few seconds of blue screen before the programme resumes. A version for European television systems is on the way.

Arista says the product is so new that it has not had reaction from the advertising industry yet. "The ads



are still on the tape and you can still see them if you override our product," a spokesman said. But will Arista be advertising Commercial Brake on TV? "That's an interesting question," he said. "I think the answer is probably, yes."

DAVID HEWSON

Information for all Americans?

Al Gore this week offered to ease laws on technological development, if consumers get a fair deal

Interest in the concept of an "information superhighway" continues to run at fever-pitch among many of the telecommunications, computer, cable television and entertainment companies in America.

This week Al Gore, the vice-president, offered an easing of regulations governing the development of communications technologies as long as they offer their products to everyone.

The concept of an information or digital highway promises consumers an unprecedented selection of television and music channels, huge stores of films, electronic shopping, computer games and computerised databases of information delivered directly into their homes via cable or telephone lines.

Though the primary means of delivering these interactive services will be the television, some are also being planned for hand-held wireless communicators, the successors to devices such as the Apple Newton Message Pad.

But already concern is being expressed by consumer groups in America that digital highways could lead to a new class of "information poor" who may not be able to afford the services and be cut off from high-tech two-way televisions and other technology.

"The danger you run is creating a society of information haves and have-nots," a senior White House official told *Business Week* magazine.

In a meeting with 30 top executives from interested companies this week, Mr Gore said the Clinton administration would seek fresh, more flexible communications laws but challenged them, in return, to provide free links from any information superhighway to every classroom, library and hospital in the country.

Mr Gore said the administration will propose allowing providers of interactive communications to drop the present maze of regulatory agencies and be overseen by a single new system of regulation that would make it easy for them to comply with government demands.

"In return, they would provide their services and access to their facilities on a non-discriminatory basis. The nation would thus be assured that these companies would provide open access to information providers and consumers and the benefits of competition," he said.

Estimates of when this cornucopia of services may become widely available vary, with most expecting it to take at least two or three years. But on Wednesday Oracle, a database company that is producing software for interactive television, announced with Bell Atlantic that it will start a full-scale interactive TV service that will be running by the end of the year.

The service — claimed to be the first commercial rather than the pilot or experimental ones already running — will use a parallel supercomputer to store a multimedia databank. This will be able to hold thousands of digitally compressed films that can be requested on demand as well as video, audio and text for online information and electronic shopping services.

Lawrence Ellison, chief executive of Oracle, is predicting that the equipment needed to access such services — typically a remote control with a box for the top of the television to connect with the central computers — will soon cost less than videocassette recorders did when they first came out. He insists they will be easier to use than VCRs, an important point given the sizeable minority that continue to find them difficult to program.

In Britain there are limited plans for interactive television, too. BT says it will test a "video on demand" system in March, using similar equipment to the Washington service, on 25,000 customers in East Anglia.

Nynex Cablecomm, one of Britain's largest cable operators, says it will spend £130 million this year on a system for the North West that will eventually include interactive services.

MATTHEW MAY



Interactive television will include services such as dial-a-film and electronic shopping

Sega zaps the killers

SEGA of America is to stop selling the *Night Trap* computer game in which scantily clad women come under attack from hooded killers.

Amid growing pressure to curb violent scenes in video games, the American subsidiary of the Japanese company said it would revise the CD video game and re-release it when an industry-wide rating system is in place.

There are no plans to withdraw the game in Britain where it has been given a 15 certificate by the British Board of Film Classification.

Bigger Apple

APPLE Computer is to introduce a global on-line information service aimed at expanding the company's role from being only a computer company. The service will begin testing this month and be available in America by spring and in Europe later this year.

Initially, it will be offered to Macintosh and Newton users before being supplied on a Windows program for IBM-compatible PCs.

Green machine

A PERSONAL computer made by Siemens Nixdorf has come out top in a survey of "green computers" by *PC Magazine*. The £1,600 PCD-4LSL/25 won because of the machine's efficient use of energy and the manufacturer's strong commitment to environmental issues.

Space licences

THE European Commission has proposed that the 12 member states recognize each other's licences for ground satellite equipment. The commission says the proposal would make it easier for satellite service providers to do business throughout the 12 nations. Service providers currently need to seek authorisation for their equipment in each country of operation.

Global phone

MOTOROLA has sold a 5 per cent stake in international communications consortium Iridium to Taiwan's Pacific Electric Wire & Cable in exchange for a £27 million combination of cash and equity commitments.

The Iridium consortium intends to tie a network of ground stations and 66 low-orbit satellites into public telephone networks so customers can make calls from virtually anywhere on Earth using portable telephones.

Dell deal

JAPAN's NEC may supply personal computers to Dell Computer under the Dell brand name for sale in Japan.

NEC, a leading high-tech company, is now discussing details of the deal with Dell, which has shown interest in NEC's PC98-series. It will be the first time that NEC has supplied the non-IBM-compatible 98-series models to other companies under their brand names.

New view

TELEVISION imports to Japan nearly doubled from a year earlier to 471,000 units in November, confirming that the country last year became a net importer for the first time.

Japan's transformation from a net exporter to a net importer of televisions reflects industry moves to shift production to other Asian countries in the wake of the yen's sharp appreciation last year.

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Computing in foreign climes

David Guest on what to expect when working and living in Germany

Germany is Europe's largest computer market and the centre of some of the Continent's largest information technology projects. What kind of destination is it for computer specialists from the United Kingdom?

Language, culture and standards of living are obvious differences, but those with experience of living and working with information technology in Germany also report some more subtle variations.

Anthony Stone combines technical ability, as a developer on the Next workstation, for example, with business and management training and has lived in Germany on and off for seven years. The first problem a British IT specialist would find, he says, is language. "The people are open and tolerant of your mistakes, but it is a great advantage to speak German."

Charles Hogan, managing director of the Dutch subsidiary of Software AG, the German software and services company , has had his home in Germany for the past two years. "The extent of the challenge shouldn't be underestimated. To get by you really need German."

David Tweedy is Bull's site service manager at an RAF installation near Mönchengladbach, after seven years in the country. His family has grown up in Germany. The services connection — with an English school — gives them certain advantages, but Mr Tweedy sets as much store by his friends in the local community.

Language may be slightly less of a problem at work, with English widely used in the computer world. But away from the office, in negotiating the housing market, for example, it is invaluable. Prices and availability are wildly different to those in Britain, and aspects of the rental/owner-occupier structure will be unfamiliar.

"When we first came out," Mr Tweedy says, "houses to rent were already much more expensive than in the UK. Renting was more popular, but there are not so many properties now.

"Since reunification, you take what you can get." The market for owner-occupiers is also relatively restricted — long-term mortgages encourage families to pass their homes down through the family.

The result, says Mr Hogan, whose home is to the south of Darmstadt, in the Rhine Valley, is that prices are very high. "For a semi-detached, you might pay three times as much as in the south of England," he says.

All three agree that salaries are higher, but Mr Tweedy says that many other items — children's clothes, for example — are also more expensive. The price of petrol, already relatively high, is to go up again in this month. "You don't see many older cars," he says. "I think the Germans tend to live off credit more than we do."

Mr Hogan points out that for a family, it is not easy to arrange matters for both partners to work. "The education system is very different. They seem not to have our system of supply teachers. Junior schools tend to send children home if the teacher goes sick. This can mean a youngster sets off for school at 8.00am and may be back home an hour later."

He adds that people with older children should be aware of the difference in secondary education, where the final qualification is the result of two years' work rather than an exam after a fortnight's frantic revision.

Awareness of differences at work emerges gradually, Mr Stone says. "I used to think people knuckled down and worked harder, but I believe there is a lack of flexibility where, say, people are asked to do a job for which they have not been specifically trained."

Management tends to aim for a consensus. Project managers accustomed to British practice can find this frustrating. Once a decision is reached, however, it is carried through rigorously.

"There are no problems in everyday life," Mr Hogan says. "We've found the people very friendly at all levels." For relaxation Mr Hogan refers to the lovely country and lively towns between Darmstadt and Heidelberg, while Mr Tweedy says: "I love German beer. I don't really miss anything. You have to adapt slightly."

PICTUREPOINT



Beautiful countryside and lively towns are among the benefits of working near the Rhine Valley, but accommodation can be expensive

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Mr Nasty craves affection



ALAN WELLER

The much-misunderstood Steven Berkoff: "Like most writers, I struggle with demons, and all my work is about loneliness, but I still think I'm incredibly lucky to be me"

Steven Berkoff, purveyor of scabrous entertainment on stage and screen, tells **Michael Church** that the critics have got it all wrong

By their fame shall ye know them. If the curse of celebrity is to be imprisoned by reputation, Steven Berkoff comes manacled hand and foot, and preceded by a fanfare of farts, belches, howls of disgust and screams of rage.

These are the noises which reverberate through most of the plays he has penned, from *East* and *West* to his Oedipus-in-Tufnell-Park rant, *Greek*. This month the Garrick Theatre has been loud with such sounds as, in his one-man show *One Man*, he impersonated Poe's psychopathic murderer, then a skinhead, and then, with hideously mobile tongue, a homicidal dog.

Now he is directing himself and Joan Collins in the film of his play, *Decadence*, and he does not disappoint. Those wishing to have their prejudices confirmed will be regaled by the sight of him blown backwards out of the Ivy restaurant by his own farts, and vomiting on the audience from the rim of a lavatory bowl.

Some critics write him off as a self-indulgent paranoiac; one stigmatised the Garrick show as "loathsome". Berkoff-baiting has become a regular sport for interviewers, who either run back with delighted reports (he's a *monster!*), or disappointed ones (he's just a *pussy-cat!*), after poking him through the bars of his cage.

Creeping up from another direction, however, is a new and quite contrary reputation. This holds that he is a major artist. *Decadence*, a stylised socio-political fantasy in verse couplets, may help to crystallise this view: as with *One Man*, there's no denying his crazy artistic courage, or his mesmerising presence.

Meeting him in his dressing-room at the Garrick, I come in on the tail-end of a furious tirade to his assistant about an interviewer who has dared to opine that he can't handle human contact, and that it must be *horrible* to be Berkoff. "That's insane. I adore affection, I'm a very affectionate person. Like most writers, I struggle with demons, and all my work is about loneliness, but I still think I'm incredibly lucky to be me. But if it really *was* horrible to be me, what an ugly thing to say!"

On the table in front of him is an open exercise book, which turns out to contain a play in progress ("about an actor in his dressing-room, complaining about the audience and the critics"). Writing, he says, is how he "frees his mind", and works off excess energy before going on stage. At one time he did this by maniacally playing Mozart piano sonatas, then by obsessively learning French, until one day, while rehearsing for the show which got him some of his worst reviews, he found himself writing a book called *I am Hamlet*.

Part commentary on Shakespeare's play, and part artistic credo — Olivier was his big hero — this was the book in which Berkoff memorably explained why people fall asleep in the theatre. With most conventional productions, he wrote, "there is simply not enough information coming in to prevent the brain from starving, and then escaping through sleep". The split-second layering of cinema was far better suited to the "over-tuned 20th-century mind".

He still holds this view, and goes into a vivid little routine from the production the critics hated. He puts on Gertrude's voice to narrate Ophelia's death, and simultaneously mimes Laertes laying an imaginary body down in an invisible stream.

Now, after years of bit parts in films — evil Russians in *Octopussy* and *Rambo*, a suave criminal in *Beverly Hills Cop*, and Oswald Mosley in *Absolute Beginners* — he has made the big jump. "*Decadence* will at last enable me to be seen as the comedian I've always been."

He originally wanted his stage-partner Linda Marlowe to co-star in this raunchy meshing of debauchery in Belgravia with its sleazy counterpart in darkest Cheam. "But the film people wouldn't wear it. The part was offered to Miranda Richardson and Helen Mirren, who showed no interest. Then Joan Collins read it, and loved it instantly. At first I resisted when she wanted to bring in her entourage — people like Christopher Biggins and Edward Duke — but they turned out to be brilliant."

Plans are now afoot to film *Kvetch* — his "American play about anxiety" — but he is no less bilious towards the movie world ("full of fakey people with ponytails who are always *cringeing*") than he is towards the captains of theatre.

He remarks that, under pressure, he is currently reading *Uncle Vanya*. "But those characters do go on. I can *smell* the kind of whinge which lies behind the very careful, very sensitive thinking. The sensitive anguish of the elbow-on-the-mantelpiece class, as Tim Roth would say. Why do you think they coined the phrase 'theatre of war'? Theatre should be traumatic, an uncapping of the skull, a releasing of demons."

He is proud of the crowd he has drawn for *One Man*. "They are the most youthful, alert, intelligent audience in London." At the National, where he was allowed "on sufferance" to stage his version of Kafka's *Trial*, he made a point of eavesdropping on the competition. "I nipped into the Cottesloe, and I couldn't even hear what they were saying. It began with an actor saying 'Oh God, I don't know what to do'." Berkoff delivers this in a strangulated voice to mimic the character in *Racing Demon*. "There was no *viscera*. I'm used to clarity in every word." Cue for a different opening — "Before the door stood a doorkeeper" — in a parade-ground bark.

Berkoff's Jewishness surfaced dramatically at the time of the Six Day War, when he volunteered for service with the Israeli army. It re-emerges now in the parable he uses to illustrate theatre in its ideal form. "When the Romans invaded Solomon's temple, they looked for treasures. But when they entered the Holy of Holies, they found it empty — because the Spirit exists in space. That is the feeling I try to create. I am a priest with a message."

One of Berkoff's famous themes has long been his own androgyny. Now a grizzled 56, he wants to explore his submerged half further. "Actors are limited not only by their age, but by their sex, and I don't see why one should give in to this. I'd love to have a crack at Clytemnestra, and Lady Macbeth, and Blanche Dubois. It's only another skill. The Japanese *onnegata* have never had a problem with it."

● Decadence *opens in London on January 28*: One Man *ends at the Garrick (071-494 5085) tomorrow*

MUSIC IN LONDON AND CARDIFF

Fanfares herald new arrivals

PLG Young Artists
Purcell Room

Half-way through its annual New Year showcase for young artists and young-ish music, the Park Lane Group matched a newly-formed brass quintet and a striking dramatic soprano with new works commissioned for this series.

In the early evening concert the **Nemo Brass Quintet**, formed from students at the Royal Northern College of Music, faced Judith Bingham's *A Dream of the Past*. The dream is of the Pre-Raphaelite painters, in particular Millais, but the character of individual brass voices seemed under-exploited in textures which captured the heavy palette but not the flowing movement of the canvases which inspired them.

Hugh Wood's *Funeral Music*, written last year and receiving its first London performance, was genuinely inspired. The work is a commemoration of the composer's father and several friends: each idiomatically characterised instrument seems to be pushing on up to the light, in staggered figures and fanfares, to a quiet apotheosis of Luther's chorale re-creation of the *Nunc dimittis*.

Matthew King's *Dives and Lazarus, a parable for voice and piano* was the central PLG commission in the evening's second concert. Conceived as a celebration of the 500th anniversary of the birth of William Tyndale in 1492, it sets his translation of the New Testament parable as a lively prose cantata.

The soprano **Anne Sheridan** seemed as beguiled as the composer himself with the inflection and music of the prose. Her fine accompanist, **John Paul Gandy**, contributed no less imaginatively.

Sheridan went on to display further the dramatic flair and bright intelligence of her soprano in *Peroration* by Brian Elias, a setting of part of Robert Browning's *Dominus Hyacinthus* which brilliantly compounds the audacious virtuosity of the poet's own word-play.

Gary Ryan is, at 24 years old, a sweet and graceful guitarist. Tippett's *The Blue Guitar* introduced his finely nuanced playing, and Stephen Oliver's *Guitar Sonata* and Edward McGuire's *Amazonia: Homage to Villa Lobos* confirmed both the physical and imaginative strength of his artistry.

HILARY FINCH

Bad in Pärt's

BBC NOW/Otaka
St David's Hall, Cardiff

In the second of the series of four lunchtime concerts of contemporary music from the CIS, given in St David's Hall by the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, there was the paradoxical coincidence of Yuri Kasparov's *Genesis* and *Arvo Pärt's* Symphony No 3. Subtitled "micro-symphony" the Kasparov piece is everything the Pärt is not: the material is concentrated; its development, except in a curiously meandering piano solo in the middle, is rigorously contained: dramatic impact is out of all proportion to the short duration of the work.

Pärt's Symphony No 3, which was written in 1971 before a well-earned six-year silence, is a three-movement inflation of material with scarcely enough interest to sustain its exposition. Presented with what would be chart-hitting simplicity if only the tempos were agonisingly slow rather than just slow, it is a severe test of the average powers of belief.

Between the Kasparov and the Pärt, both of them conducted with all apparent conviction by Tadaaki Otaka, was a reasonably proportioned work by Alfred Schnittke.

Even the Concerto for piano and strings, which is one of Schnittke's most disciplined scores, has its repetitions and its wanderings within its single-movement construction. But, starting from a questioning two-note motif, it also has much conflicting material to reconcile, and it does it with a disarming mixture of poetic fantasy, wit and keyboard-crushing percussive violence.

It is interesting that a pianist as closely associated with the conventional concerto as Artur Pizarro can take up this refractory piece and, in his shiny black waistcoat, find himself so effectively committed to it.

GERALD LARNER

Rough and nearly ready

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** reports on the opening event of Manchester's year as City of Drama



Théâtre de Complicité in *Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol*, based on a John Berger story

Théâtre de Complicité's latest concoction launches both Manchester's year as the City of Drama — a pompous title belied by a lively-looking programme — and a new theatre in the dreary back-reaches of the Oxford Road.

The Dancehouse, once a cinema, is now primarily what its publicity calls an "integrated ballet complex". But its main auditorium, art-deco clouds and pyramids still on its walls, is being gradually transformed into a 400-seat playhouse. The process of conversion has some way to go, as I found out the hard way, by perching on a piece of red plastic and straining to see round the Goliath just ahead of me; but the makeshift, ad-hoc atmosphere certainly suits Complicité's subject-matter.

Brown earth covers a stage thinly furnished with pails, planks, chopping blocks, a wonky-looking table, an antique bath into which rain pours. This is French farming country as it was earlier this century and, in defiance of Gatt and Maastricht, as it seems determined to remain in the century ahead. It also makes a suitable dour, rough setting for Simon McBurney and Mark Wheatley's affectionate adaptation of one of John Berger's finest short stories.

His *Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol* is partly a celebration of the spirit of survival, partly an oddball love story. At the centre is the title-character, a peasant-woman also known as the Cocadrille, after a mythic monster which pulverises its enemies with the power of its gaze. She is dwarfish and plain, despised by her brothers and off the visiting list of every eligible bachelor in the parish, but by the end she has unselfconsciously displayed every virtue in the book: humanity, courage, resourcefulness, industry, shrewdness and a capacity for devotion, not to mention the at-one-ness with nature supposed to exist only in pristine rainforests.

Berger's sinewy prose somehow manages to keep the portrait unsentimental, and the broad face and ungainly, mulish manner of Lilo Baur, who plays Lucie for Complicité, achieves the same at the Dancehouse. But Kathryn Hunter, star of the company's production of *The Visit*, she isn't. You never believe she could transfix a man from 40 paces, or clamber deftly up perilous mountain paths, or discombobulate the French peasantry. There is much that is admirable, but nothing physically or emotionally exceptional about the dogged figure she presents.

It is the same with McBurney's production. This is not Complicité's most imaginative offering — symbolically collapsing walls at the very end is its one eye-grabbing effect — but it has a quiet integrity. It shows Lucie attacking a bullying brother, Lucie saving a member of the Resistance, Lucie sustaining life in the depths of the forest, Lucie in frenzied flagrante with the one man who attracts her, McBurney's sheepish, wary Jean.

She eventually gets him, too, but in a manner as curious on the stage as in the story. Only after she has been axed to death as an old woman, and taken up posthumous residence in his head, does he admit he should have married her as a young man. Indeed, he temporarily joins the dead for a wedding ritual that, for all its eccentricity, does make Berger's point for him. We misread people, squander our chances, waste our lives. Why?

Baryshnikov joins the gala

ARTS BRIEFING

MIKHAIL Baryshnikov is among the stars of the international dance world who will gather at the London Coliseum on March 13 to pay tribute to Rudolf Nureyev. Fellow Russians Irek Mukhamedov and Natalia Makarova (part of the team of hosts) will also be there, along with leading dancers from the Paris Opera Ballet, Royal Ballet, English National Ballet and the National Ballet of Canada — all companies with which Nureyev was associated.

The programme will include Nureyev's choreography for *Don Quixote*, *La Bayadère*, *The Nutcracker* and *Romeo and Juliet*, as well as choreographic contributions from William Forsythe and Jiri Kylian. All proceeds go to the Aids fund-raising charity, Crusaid. Nureyev died of Aids last year.

● NIGEL Osborne, the composer who once wrote an opera called *The Electrification of the Soviet Union*, has delved into East European politics for inspiration again. This time the subject is Sarajevo: his new opera, *Troy*, is described as "a trilogy of pieces using the metaphor of the siege of Troy to illustrate the plight of the Balkan cities today".

Osborne has made extended visits to Sarajevo to research the project over the last 18 months. As with *Electrification*, *Troy* will have a libretto by the poet Craig Raine. It will be premiered in August at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, in an Opera Factory production by David Freeman.

Injury time

THE West End run of Stephen Sondheim's *Putting It Together*, which was scheduled for the Haymarket in May, has been postponed after the star of the show, Carol Burnett, injured her back and neck during filming.

Putting It Together was first mounted at the Oxford Fire Station in 1991, with Diana Rigg in the lead, and then played at the Manhattan Theatre Club in New York last year with Julie Andrews in the starring role. Producer Cameron Mackintosh is now planning to mount the production in London later this year or in 1995.

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WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

STEVEN ISSERLIS. The internationally acclaimed cellist is joined by pianist **Melvyn Tan** in a recital of Mendelssohn's Variations and Sonatas Nos 1 and 2 and Schumann's *Fantasiestücke* and Romances Op94. **Blackheath Concert Halls**, Lee Road, SE3 (081-463 0100). Tomorrow, 8pm.

THE UNKNOWN MODIGLIANI: Between 1906 and 1914, Modigliani's doctor and close friend Paul Alexandre saved every last fragment of preparatory drawing for his major paintings and sculptures of the time. Some of the *drawings are famous, but most of the* collection has never been publicly exhibited before. Though now somewhat scattered, it has been reassembled for this exhibition, which offers a unique insight into the creative processes of one of the 20th century's most significant artists. **Royal Academy of Arts**, Piccadilly, W1 (071-439 7438) Daily 10am-6pm. *Opens today until April 4.*

XERXES: Nicholas Hytner's delightfully stylish 1985 production, undoubtedly one of the most effective Handel stagings of recent years, is revived for **ENO** by Julia Hollander. Ivor Bolton conducts a strong cast which includes Louise Winter in the title role, Yvonne Kenny, Christopher Robson, Lesley Garrett and Jean Rigby. **Coliseum**, *St Martin's Lane, WC2* (071-836 3161) Tonight, 7pm.

ELSEWHERE

ABERDEEN: The acclaimed Spanish pianist Alicia de Larrocha joins Nicholas Kraemer and the **Scottish Chamber Orchestra** for a performance of Mozart's Piano Concerto No 27. The *eclectic programme also includes* Haydn's Symphony No 80 and Schnittke's Concerto Grosso of 1976. **Music Hall**, Union Street (0224 641122). Tonight, 7.30pm.

EDINBURGH: David Rintoul scares the wits out of Vivien Heilbron in Patrick Hamilton's classic Victorian melodrama, **Gaslight**. **Royal Lyceum**, Grindlay Street (031-229 9697). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Jan 22, 29 and Feb 3, 3.15pm. Until Feb 5.

MANCHESTER: Yan Pascal Tortelier and the **BBC Philharmonic** perform Messiaen's Turangalila Symphony tonight with soloists Jean Yves Thibaudet, piano, and Valerie Hartmann-Claverie playing the *composer's much-loved ondes martenot.* **Free Trade Hall**, Peter Street, Manchester (061-834 1712). Tonight, 7.30pm.

POOLE: A rare joint performance from the **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra** and **Bournemouth Sinfonietta** is on offer tomorrow evening. Andrew Litton and Tamás Vásáry share the same platform for the first time in a programme which includes Tippett (Fanfare No 5); Chopin (Andante Spianato for piano and Orchestra: Vasáry soloist), Pärt (Fratres, for violin solo and strings: Richard Studt, soloist); Mozart (Symphony No 35, *Haffner*); and Elgar (Symphony No 2). **Wessex Hall**, Poole Arts Centre, Kingland Road, (0202 685222). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: All Human Life (071-638 4141) . . . **British Museum:** Deities and Devotions, Hindu art. Demon of Painting, Kawanabe Kyosai (071-636 1555) . . . **Festival Hall:** Bruce Chatwin's Photographs (071-928 3002) . . . **National Portrait Gallery:** The Portrait Now, Thomas Eakins (071-306 0055) . . . **National Gallery:** Ken Kiff (071-839 3321) . . . **Royal Academy of Arts:** Drawings from the J. Paul Getty Museum (071-439 7438) . . . **Royal College of Art:** John Minton (071-5846020) . . . **Tate:** Writing *on the Wall: women artists*, Turner's Vignettes (071-887 8008)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

◪ **AN ABSOLUTE TURKEY:** Felicity Kendal plays a harassed wife and Griff Rhys Jones a frantic bachelor, in Peter Hall's most enjoyable production of Feydeau's *Le Dindon*. **Globe**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

■ **ANOTHER SHORT HOUR:** (LIMF) The well-praised Théâtre du Mouvement from Paris present 70 minutes of ingenious choreography and acrobatic skills. **Purcell Room**, South Bank Centre, SE1 (071-928 8800). Tonight-Mon (inc Sun), 8pm.

■ **BREAKING THE BANK:** Aptly costumed in paper, the Empty Space company's almost good play about John Law, the Scottish financier who promoted paper money in 1719 and bankrupted the French state. **Lyric Studio**, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 8701). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4.30pm. Until Feb 5.

◪ **CAROUSEL:** Tuneful and cleverly set Rodgers and Hammerstein musical extravaganza. **Shaftesbury**, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

■ **CLAIR DE LUZ:** (LIMF) Pete Brooks' Insomniac Productions follow last year's *L'Ascensore* with a performance recreating the 1950s world of *film noir*. **ICA**, The Mall, SW1 (071-930 3647). Tonight and Sat, 8pm.

□ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS:** Stephen Daldry's marvellously re-imagined version of Priestley's social thriller. **Aldwych**, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 5pm and 8.15pm; mat Wed, 2.30pm.

◪ **KIT AND THE WIDOW: JANUARY SALE:** Suave and stinging, the musical satirists pass comment on the social scene with their familiar skill. **Vaudeville**, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Tue-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat 6pm and 8.30pm; Sun 7.30pm.

■ **MADNESS OF GEORGE III:** Nigel Hawthorne's award-winning performance of blasted, resilient monarchy. Limited performances only. **National** (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Wed, 7.30pm; mats Sat and Tue, 2.15pm.

◪ **MEDEA:** Jonathan Kent directs the magnificent Diana Rigg in Euripides's tragedy of a woman's revenge. **Wyndham's**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm; mat Sat, 5.30pm.

◪ **PIAF:** Elaine Paige in powerful voice as the Parisian sparrow. The play itself is rather less than marvelous. **Piccadilly**, *Denman Street*, W1 (071-867 1118). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed (Lorraine Brunning) and Sat 3pm

◪ **SEPTEMBER TIDE:** Daphne du Maurier's drama of inappropriate passion arrives in the West End again (last time 1948), from the King's Head. Susannah York plays the decent woman in love with her son-in-law. **Comedy**, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045). Previewing through Mon, 8pm. Opens Jan 18, 7pm.

□ **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER:** Donald Sinden, Miriam Margolyes and *David Essex in Peter Hall's revival of the* evergreen Goldsmith comedy. **Queens**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm.

◪ **TRAVESTIES:** Tom Stoppard's dazzling word-spinner revived with Antony Sher as the aged consul remembering Lenin, Joyce and Dada in 1917 Zurich. Adrian Noble directs. **Barbican**, *Silk Street, EC2* (071-638 8891) Tonight and tomorrow, 7.15pm; mat tomorrow, 2pm.

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) . . □ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . ◪ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) . . . ◪ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (071-734 8951) . . ◪ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) . . . ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) . . ■ **Grease**: Dominion (071-580 8845) . . ◪ **Hot Stuff**: Cambridge (071-494 5040) . . ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) . . ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . □ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ■ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi Theatre (071-344 0055) . . □ **Travels With My Aunt**: Whitehall (071-867 1119) . . □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **FRIENDS** (15): Female friendships in turbulent Johannesburg. Worthy, flawed drama from writer-director Elaine Proctor; with Kerry Fox. **Metro** (071-437 0757) **MGMs Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148)

◆ **HEAR NO EVIL** (15): Unpleasant potboiler with Marlee Matlin as a deaf damsel in distress. With Martin Sheen; Robert Greenwald directs. **MGMs Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

THE NORTHERNERS (15): Obsessions and secrets of an abandoned housing estate. Deadpan Dutch satire from talented director Alex van Warmerdam. **MGM Piccadilly** (071-437 3561)

PROVIDENCE (15): Alain Resnais's elegant enigma of 1977, with John Gielgud as the dying writer weaving his family into his fiction. **Everyman** (071-435 1525) **MGM Swiss Centre** (071-439 4470)

STRANGER THAN PARADISE (15). Laconic tale of the American dream. Jim Jarmusch's first feature, still bracing today. With John Lurie and Eszter Balint. **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

◆ **UNDERCOVER BLUES** (12): Pantless, dull comedy thriller with Dennis Quaid and Kathleen Turner spying with *baby in tow*. Director, Herbert Ross. **Plaza** (0800 888997) **MGMs Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

CURRENT

◆ **ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES** (PG): Overblown sequel, with good stretches. Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston star, Barry Sonnenfeld directs. **Empire** (0800 888911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **ALADDIN** (U): Disney's brash Arabian cartoon does not match expectations, though Robin Williams' Genie is fun. **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **CARLITO'S WAY** (18): Can Al Pacino's gangster go straight? Lively ethnic-flavoured drama from Brian De Palma, with Sean Penn and Penelope Ann Miller. **Empire** (0800 888911) **MGMs Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE** (15). Chen Kaige's Cannes prizewinner: a bumper bundle of dazzling visuals, Peking Opera, and Chinese history. With Leslie Cheung and Gong Li. **Barbican** (071-638 8891) **Chelsea Cinema** (071-351 3742) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Odeon Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Hill** (071-435 3366)

MAC (18). Refreshing, old-fashioned salute to the common man from actor, co-writer and director John Turturro. **MGM Panton Street** (071-930 0631)

◆ **MALICE** (15): Alec Baldwin's hot-shot doctor shatters Nicole Kidman and Bill Pullman's New England college town domestic bliss. Shallow, serpentine and stupefying thriller; director, Harold Becker. **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Marble Arch** (0426-914 501) **Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057) **West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **A PERFECT WORLD** (15): Kevin Costner's criminal on the run with a kidnapped child, and Clint Eastwood in pursuit. Thoughtful if overstretched drama; Eastwood also directs. **Barbican** (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

SURVIVING DESIRE: Three elegant, crisp and artless short films from American independent Hal Hartley, showing during the January season, "New York, No Picnic". **ICA** (071-930 3647)

Perfection in disposable form

It's the shallowest, sweetest, instant hits that often turn out to have enduring appeal

for Caitlin Moran





Bros: Sticky little girls screamed at them; *Smash Hits* smothered them; Caitlin Moran thinks she likes them

This fantabulous world of Pop in which we live, spins and grooves along the strangest of rules. Nothing is certain. The charts seem to be some kind of twilight zone, wherein anything and anyone can happen — but only if you don't expect it. Icons come and icons go — genius stays hungry and Mr Blobby *can feasibly swim in caviar for the rest* of his life. At the moment, I feel inclined to abuse a household pet if I hear that Pink Thing's single dribble from one more radio. But in two years' time I fear I may thrill to it, because sometimes it's the disposable pop kick that remains the longest lived.

When such-and-such a single first assaults the charts, it seems that you are wading through drifts of sugary, tinnily manufactured mainstream pap, stuff that will date approximately three-and-a-half minutes after it is first played. But two years later, hunched over a mug of hangover coffee and half ignoring Jakki Brambles on Radio 1, the song that tormented your life and remained at No 1 for *sixty million years* suddenly makes sense. The very fact you can anticipate every chord change, each cheesy stab of strings and politely abandoned "woe *yeah*", induces delirium. *You down two paracetamol, and* start dancing . . .

Example: when Kylie Minogue first sashayed onto the scene in the waning hours of the 1980s, anyone who had an ounce of suss in their bodies reviled her. Whenever she sprang brightly onto a television screen in the area, they would turn away, faces screwed up into little moues of disgust. Kylie was pop painted Day-Glo: utterly see-through, utterly disposable.

And in those far distant days, when the delicate sweetness of REM couldn't have produced a No 1 album even if *they had stapled a tenner to the cover of* each copy, it seemed unfair that a soap star could hook up with producers Stock, Aitken and Waterman and have her fortune written for her. "I Should Be So Lucky" filled the air that grim summer, and legions of Cool People despaired that something so entirely without meaning could be so popular.

Fast forward, now, to Christmas 1993. I attended a birthday party thrown by one of the hippest people in the music industry, located in an aluminium foil grotto in Camden. Pop stars hung by the bar, record produc*ers by the buffet table, and record-label* bosses by the toilets. Everyone in the place would probably have shot their mother rather than lose their credibility, as credibility is your CV, meal ticket and pension in the Pop World.

And yet, as DJs came and DJs went, the stuff that filled the dance floor was Kylie, Rick Astley, Cliff Richard's poppier hits, the works of Bananarama, Jason Donovan's more upbeat repertoire, and repeated playings of Falco's appallingly trashy *Rock Me Amadeus* film cash-in. Because these records *were* so en*tirely without mean*ing, they had stayed just as gaudily bright as the day they were released. Cheap pop is glitter without context or grounding in the real world, which is its strength. More credible, worthy bands will shimmy like chameleons to encompass *Zeitgeist*; events will occur which they feel they have to comment on, to add their voices to a groundswell *of public opinion. Disposable pop has* no such compunction.

> 'Cheap pop is glitter with no grounding in the real world. That is its strength'

When Time moves on and leaves History in its wake, songs about current affairs date, grow old and die. Whereas records consisting of a bit of blonde fluff chirruping about how she could *be so lucky, lucky, lucky*, will — like evil queens in fairytales, like dumped plastic and nuclear waste and Woolworths picnic crockery — never age, rot, fade or crack.

Perhaps it's just that — as I recline gracefully into the sofa of Maturity and Wisdom — it is taking less and less time between the release of a slice of Cheap Pop and my actually getting round to liking it. Take, for instance, Bros: in their heyday, I could have quite happily pulled out my fingernails rather than listen to their singles. Sticky little girls screamed at them, and *Smash Hits* almost smothered them, and every television programme on every channel featured the two "gorgeous" blond Goss twins, plus the gnome-like Craig, gurning their way through a variety of odd situations. I liked The Smiths and New Order and people in cardigans, with jingly jangly guitars — I was cool, slightly uptight, and I did *not* dig Bros.

Three weeks ago, as I was trying to locate the dog-food aisle in Waitrose, I found myself humming along to the piped music. As I waltzed merrily down tinned, bottled and frozen fruits, I may have started hand jiving; and as the icy wastes of the fish-finger cabinet came into view I *could* feasibly have been singing along in a reedy falsetto. It was only as I cheerily shoved my *laden trolley into the Five Items or Less* queue that I realised the song that I was grooving to was Bros's "I Owe You Nothing", which I now recognise to be a work of profound genius.

The Bros about-turn took seven years. It took me six weeks to realise that 2 Unlimited's annoying, tacky, horridly diluted stab at techno, "No Limits" was in fact a shinily perfect disc of wonder; and three days to wake up to the fact that Aerosmith's "Cryin'" single was bombastic, overblown, hysterical, meaningless — and that this was good.

However, there are exceptions. I do hope that the sun will have cooled and the stars dimmed down to 15 watts before I laud the Mr Blobby single as anything other than aural sludge.

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

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Dir by STEVEN PIMLOTT Starring JASON DONOVAN Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 QUEUE DAILY FOR RETURNS LAST PERFS TOMORROW

LYRIC, Shafts Ave Bo & cc 071 494 5045 cc 071 344 4444 All tel lines 24hr/7 days (bkg fee). cc 497 9977 Grps 071 930 6123 The Joint Never Stops Jumpin
FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE
THE OLIVIER AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL 3RD GREAT YEAR Mon-Thu 8 Fri & Sat at 6 & 8.45

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 081 741 2311 cc (24hrs/no bkg fee) 071 836 3464 Until 22 Jan, Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats 19 & 22 Jan 2.30 Northern Broadsides' 'HILARIOUS' Tel MERRY WIVES by Shakespeare Also playing until 16 Jan, NODDY, Morning & afternoon perfs (incl Sun) STUDIO 081 741 8701 From 12 Jan BREAKING THE BANK Eve 8.00 (14 Jan 7.00) Sat Mat 4.30.

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252 Grps 071 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 OLIVIER Ton't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 THE ABSENCE OF WAR David Hare LYTTELTON Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.15 & 7.30 THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III Alan Bennett COTTESLOE Today 6.00 PLATFORM PERF GRANDCHILDREN OF ALBION. Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 (LAST PERF) MOTHER COURAGE Bertolt Brecht in a version by Hanif Kureishi

NEW LONDON Drury Lane BO 071 405 0072 CC 071 404 4079 24hr 344 4444 Grps 930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 LATECOMERS NOT ADMIT TED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PALACE THEATRE 071-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 071-344 4444/497 9977/071 793 1000 Group Sales 071 930 6123 Groups 071 494 1671 THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL
LES MISERABLES
Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 867 1044 867 1111/344 4444 (fee) 497 9977 BEST MUSICAL ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS WILLY RUSSELL'S
BLOOD BROTHERS
STEPHANIE LAWRENCE with CARL WAYNE "ASTONISHING" S Express ...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4.

PICCADILLY BO/CC 867 1118/ 1111/ 071 344 4444/497 9977 THE PETER HALL COMPANY "ELAINE PAIGE is
PIAF
Astonishing...tremendous, funny, tender, stupendous...powerful, majestic, unstoppable" D.Exp "MAGNIFICENT" Gdn A musical play by PAM GEMS Directed by PETER HALL Eves 8.00 Mats Wed, Sat 3.00 Matinees Lorraine Brunning will play the role of Piaf (Wed Mat all seats £10)

PLAYHOUSE BO/CC 071 839 4401 TIM PIGOTT SMITH in
JANE EYRE
Adapted by Fay Weldon "Epic...an enthralling piece of theatre" D Exp. Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat at 3.00

PRINCE EDWARD 071 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) 836 3464 / 071 344 4444 Groups 930 6123 BEST MUSICAL Laurence Olivier Awards 93 THE NEW GERSHWIN MUSICAL COMEDY
CRAZY FOR YOU
"IS A GREAT, GLORIOUS, GLAMOROUS GOLDMINE OF A SHOW" S.Times Eves 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat 3.00 APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS & CANCELLATIONS

PRINCE OF WALES BO/CC 071 839 5972 cc (24hr no bkg fee) 071 836 3464/344 4444 Grps 071 413 3321 THE NEW PRODUCTION OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S
ASPECTS OF LOVE
"Exquisite - a reprise of love... a spine-tingling affair" Jack Tinker/Daily Mail LAST 3 PERFS Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3

PRINCE OF WALES 071 839 5972 24hr 7 day cc 836 3464 (no bkg fee) From 9 Feb for a limited season Charity Gala 10 Feb at 7.00
PAUL DANIELS THE MAGIC MAN
Debbie McGee & Martin Daniels Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30

QUEENS BO/CC 071 494 5041 CC 071 344 4444/Grps 071 413 3321 THE PETER HALL COMPANY DONALD SINDEN DAVID ESSEX MIRIAM MARGOLYES in
SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER
Directed by PETER HALL "GLORIOUS" D. Mail "A generous, golden evening" S.Tms "Everything you could ask for" FT Eves 7.45 Mats: Thu 3.00 Sat 4.00

ROYAL COURT 071-730 1745/2554 cc 836 2428(24hrs) 836 5122 THE CAVALCADERS by Billy Roche Eves 7.30, Sat Mats 3.30

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (071 638 8891 cc Mon - Sun 9am-8pm) BARBICAN THEATRE MACBETH Ton't 7.15,Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 THE PIT UNFINISHED BUSINESS Ton't, Tomor, Fri 7.15, Sat 2.00 & 7.15 STRATFORD-UPON-AVON (0789 295623 cc Mon-Sat 9am-8pm) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE THE TEMPEST Ton't,Sat 7.30,Tomor 1.30 SWAN THEATRE THE COUNTRY WIFE Ton't,Sat 7.30, Tomor 1.30 THE OTHER PLACE GHOSTS Tomor 7.30 Meal/Ticket/Hotel package 0789 414999.

SAVOY THEATRE BO/CC 071 836 8888 cc 497 9977 (24hrs no bkg fee). SUSAN HAMPSHIRE SARAH BRIGHTMAN ALISON FISKE ANTHONY BATE in NOEL COWARD'S "WICKEDLY ENJOYABLE" D. Tel
RELATIVE VALUES
Directed by TIM LUSCOMBE "JOYOUS" F.T. "SPARKLING... A COMEDY WITH REAL BITE" Time Out Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

SHAFTESBURY BO & CC 071 379 5399 CC 071 344 4444 24hr/bkg fee Grps 413 3321 DUE TO HUGE PUBLIC DEMAND RUN NOW EXTENDED TO AUGUST 27 1994 "RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S MASTERPIECE" S. Times
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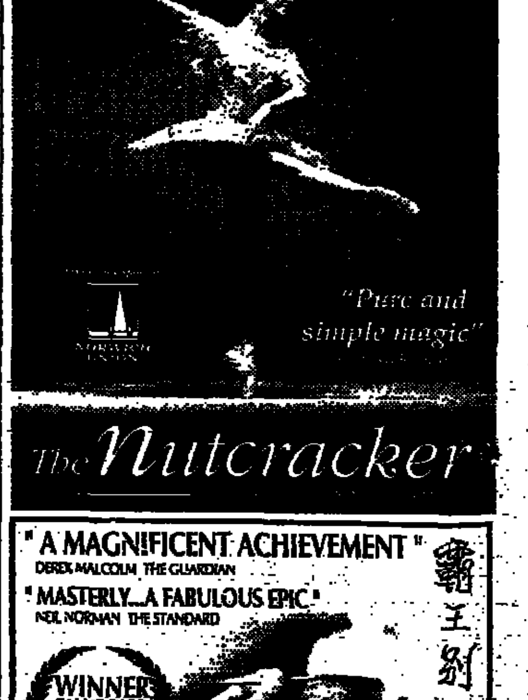
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POP ON FRIDAY: Candidates announced for the right-on street-cred award ... exploring the backwaters of reggae

True Brits or real Brats?

When the *NME* came up with an alternative to Britain's premier music awards, the Establishment fought back. Alan Jackson reports

The first shock of the Brit Awards press conference involved arriving at the Hard Rock Café, Piccadilly, last Monday and finding no queue of burger-starved American tourists. Instead, the joint was jumping with those of us, young and not so young, whose interests and aspirations are said to be served by this, the native music industry's once-a-year prize-giving.

Air kisses abounded. Leather jackets, baseball caps and mobile phones were much in evidence. Cynics sat quietly, inwardly perfecting the stomach-clutching, eye-rolling motion they intended to employ when it was announced that hardy perennials Kate Bush and Phil Collins had again swept the board with nominations in all relevant categories.

No wonder then that awards chairman Rob Dickens looked both smug and smug in his dark designer suit. While the cynics nursed their prejudices against the Brits — too Establishment, too predictable, little more than a day out for dinosaurs — he knew the truth. A much-needed change in the voting procedure had resulted in belated recognition of younger, more representative talent. He knew that those best-placed to take home a trophy would be Jamiroquai (five nominations), Apache Indian (four), Dina Carroll and the Stereo MCs (three each). Most shockingly of all, he knew that Kate 'n' Phil had released their respective new LPs too late to be eligible for consideration.

All of this helped dilute the tone of undisguised contempt that has previously characterised the traditional post-announcement question and answer session. Furthermore, the urbane Dickens was at pains to point out just how the Brits Academy had responded to past criticism that the event is an incestuous one, polluted by you-vote-for-my-act-and-I'll-vote-for-yours collusions between the five major labels. This time, voting power had been divided equally between four different camps: the 125 record companies, both corporate and independent, that make up the British Phonographic Industry; retailers; the press, radio and television; and various others, including concert promoters, music publishers and the Black Music Association. To see the difference this had made, he said, one had only to skim the list of 1994 nominees.

However, none of this was enough to satisfy Steve Sutherland, editor of *New Musical Express*. *NME* announced that it was to make official what had been instigated last year as a Brit-knocking spoof — the Brat Awards. "So many people got the wrong idea and thought it was actually a proper event that we thought, 'Why don't we?'," he says. "Basically, it's us revitalising the old *NME* Pollwinners' Concert." That auspicious event ran annually from the early 1950s, when Eartha Kitt, Ronnie Scott, Petula Clark and Frank Sinatra were early winners, through to March 25, 1973, when Slade, Roxy Music, Rod Stewart and Eric Clapton were awarded statuettes.

"Last year we conducted a campaign for change in the voting procedures that dominated the Brits," Sutherland said in a provocative statement accompanying the rock weekly's own nominations list (Worst Record: "I Would Do Anything For Love", Meat Loaf; "Mr Blobby", Mr Blobby; "No Limit", 2 Unlimited; "I Will Always Love You", Whitney Houston; "What's Up?", 4 Non Blondes).

"At the time we wrote: *NME* believes that there is great music being made in Britain, and that the way the Brit Awards are presently handled represents an outdated notion of success, takes no interest in the future development of pop music, and contributes to the malaise that is attacking our music from within.

"The organisers of the Brits were shamed into broadening the electorate this year, but a sneak preview of nominees proves that very little has changed — the Brits still offer little hope or encouragement to new talent, continuing to endorse the old guard."

This is not entirely true — or is certainly dependent on how close to the cutting edge you consider yourself to be. More young record buyers will be familiar with the contenders for Best British Newcomer Brit (Apache Indian, Gabrielle, Jamiroquai, Shara Nelson, Suede) than those for Best New Act Brat (Credit to the Nation, Elastica, Trans-Global Underground, Tindersticks, Senser).

But then, isn't that exactly how it should be? A music press that merely strokes and services the signings of the multinationals would be a poor thing indeed. *NME* would be failing its young readership were it not to operate at the grassroots level at which new talent first emerges. As it is, the paper has seized both the moral high ground and given itself a useful publicity boost. "It's patently obvious that our awards are a vital antidote to the moribund Brits, a signal to the rest of the world that British music is still alive and kicking," Sutherland says, unwisely choosing his imagery from the Simple Minds back catalogue.

I feel there is room for both Brits and Brats; indeed, their relationship can be symbiotic, their joint existence complementary. The Brits panel is almost touchingly desperate to assert the international relevance of this year's show, to be hosted by Elton John and RuPaul at London's Alexandra Palace on February 14 and televised by Carlton the following night. But it remains unlikely that the event will ever play anything but second fiddle to America's Grammies — itself a ponderously safe event, but one with such an exhaustive array of categories (Best Bluegrass Recording, Best Polka even) that it has acquired an air of authority.

Hip young things like Tindersticks or Senser don't yet need the patronage of the British Establishment. Far better for them to be lauded by an audience of their peers — and the Brats judging panel comprises a right-on selection of band members, independent PRs and record company personnel, pluggers, promoters and even plain old punters — than to be given a headmasterly pat on the back by the BPI. Time enough for that when their second or third major label release passes the 600,000 sales mark.

For now, though, it's appropriate that they should be championed by the *NME* rather than be hijacked by oldest-swinger-in-town types looking to bolster the street cred quotient of the Brits.

That's why the Brats awards ceremony, to be presided over by comedians Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer at the New Empire, London, on January 25 (with live Radio 1 coverage on Steve Lamacq and Jo Whylie's evening session) will be the perfect forerunner to the celeb-ridden Brit bash.

Not that either side will necessarily see it that way — barely had Dickens finished drawing our attention to this year's "more radical" set of nominees than Sutherland was considering a visit to a betting office. "I feel that all they've made is a token gesture," he says of the BPI. "I'd happily wager £500 that Apache Indian and P.J. Harvey don't win a thing: they're just there to make it acceptable enough for the Brits to roll along as they always have done."

Meanwhile, both sides would do well to be pleased with how things stand. There is sufficient disparity in both sets of nominations to remind us how broad is the spectrum of contemporary British music, sufficient commonality to reassure us that we're all speaking the same language.

Further consensus should scarcely be possible in a medium that thrives on its ability to surprise and to stir, to divide and sometimes to draw together. What could be more boring than an awards show where everyone agreed on the winners?



(From left) Brett Anderson of Suede, who found favour with both the Brit and Brat panels, mega-selling soul diva Dina Carroll and Jason Kay, charismatic main man of Jamiroquai

BRITS: Best British Group: Jamiroquai, M People, Stereo MCs, Suede, Take That. **BRATS: Best Band:** Suede, Smashing Pumpkins, New Order, R.E.M., Blur.

BRITS: Best British Album: *Connected*, Stereo MCs; *Emergency On Planet Earth*, Jamiroquai; *So Close*, Dina Carroll; *Suede*, Suede; *Ten Summoner's Tales*, Sting. **BRATS: Best Album:** *Siamese Dreams*, Smashing Pumpkins; *Debut*, Bjork; *Modern Life is Rubbish*, Blur; *Suede*, Suede; *Giant Steps*, The Boo Radleys.

BRITS: Best British Single: "Boom Shak-A-Lak", Apache Indian; "So Close", Dina Carroll; "Dreams", Gabrielle; "Moving On Up", M People; "Regret", New Order; "Creep", Radiohead; "Oh Carolina", Shaggy; "Animal Nitrate", Suede; "Pray", Take That; "Wild Wood", Paul Weller.

BRATS: Best Single: "Cannonball", The Breeders; "Regret", New Order; "Animal Nitrate", Suede; "Open Up", Leftfield/Lydon; "Creep", Radiohead.

BRITS: Best British Dance Act: Apache Indian, Jamiroquai, M People, Stereo MCs, The Shamen. **BRATS: Best Dance Act:** Orbital, Sabres Of Paradise, The Orb, Trans-Global Underground, Eat Static.

WHAT'S OUT & ABOUT

SINGLE of the Week: All over the independent airwaves is the mighty Aretha Franklin's first new release in three years, a cover of the Clivilles & Cole club staple "A Deeper Love". Due for inclusion on her forthcoming *Greatest Hits (1980-1994)* album, it marks an awesome return to form. The bad news? Arista have given the record to radio early to create a buzz — it's not in the shops until January 31.

ACCESSORY of the Week: Big kids with full wallets may like to consider Chart Moves, the board game for pop buffs. Available from major record retailers at a hefty £39.95, progress is made by answering trivia questions. Bad Luck cards slow you down: "Tour Van Clamped"; "Busted for Drugs" and so on. Slogan? 'You don't buy hotels in this game, you wreck 'em'.

STATISTIC of the Week: Sales of Dina Carroll's *So Close* have topped the magic million, and as yet show no sign of flagging. Currently at the top of the UK charts a full year after its initial release, it is thought to be the highest-selling debut album by a British female artist.

COMEBACK of the Week: Just out in America on Columbia and available here on import is *Walk The Dog And Light The Light*, the first studio album in nine years by the seminal New York singer-songwriter Laura Nyro. Co-produced by Nyro and Gary Katz, it shows her to have lost none of her old quirkiness. One song, "The Descent Of Luna Rose", carries the subtitle "Dedicated to my period."

VENUE of the Week: London's Jazz Café (5 Parkway, Camden Town, NW1, tel: 071-916 6000), continues to shape up as one of the best of the capital's smaller rooms. Much-favoured by record companies wanting to showcase artists in an intimate setting, this week it plays host to Sarah Jane Morris (January 19) and Simply Red's Brazilian guitar maestro Heitor (January 20). Currently booking: Marcella Detroit, Isaac Hayes and Roy Ayres' Ubiquity.

NEW ALBUMS: The best ambient sounds come via Fax

Calling occupants of interplanetary craft

PETE NAMLOOK
The Dutch Side of the Milky Way
(Fax, PK08/84)
ATOM HEART & TETSU INOUE
Datacide 2
(Fax, PS08/31)
DEEP SPACE NETWORK & DR ATMO
I.F.
(Fax, PS08/33)

ONCE there was a horrible form of music with attitude called punk. Many high-flown motives and consequences have been attributed to punk, but one thing is sure. For a brief moment, the movement that was punk attempted to re-align the usurious economic relationship between those who create the music and those who own and market it. For an even briefer moment, the distinction between musicians and fans was blurred.

Anybody who doubts that the various new strains of techno-trance and ambient musics are pursuing some of the same goals should investigate the work of Pete Namlook. Based in Frankfurt, Namlook began by learning Beatles chords on the guitar, but quickly moved on to classical music, cool jazz and experiments with a Revox tape-recorder. Having produced electronic ambient tracks since the mid-1980s, he began negotiating with record companies. Once he had grown sufficiently tired of trying to persuade A&R managers that his music was not an irrelevancy, he launched his own label.

Launch suggests a single ship, of course, but Namlook has set loose an armada. Since his first release in 1992, he has produced more than a hundred CDs and vinyl singles on Fax and its subsidiary labels.

JAKE CHESSUM



Pete Namlook in frenetic action at last October's Ambient Weekend in Amsterdam

All of the albums are recorded and packaged to the highest standards. Any punk parallels end with the philosophy of independent distribution, for this is instrumental music designed for serious listening.

Most of it is generated electronically, with the emphasis on rhythmic repetition and simple textural contrasts. Although Fax products sit neatly within the currently fashionable ambient movement, they can also be related to the earlier, Brian Eno era of ambient, the American minimalists such as Philip Glass and Terry Riley, the German synthesiser music of Klaus Schulze and Tangerine Dream, or even pioneers such as Karlheinz Stockhausen and Ilhan Mimoroglu.

Of this recent batch, Namlook's own CD was recorded live at the Amsterdam Ambient Weekend held last October. Here, Namlook explores the effect of ethereal harmonics and tumbling pure tones over a buzzing rhythmic pulse, occasionally adding in frequencies so low that they seem to push you back in your chair.

Of the other Fax albums, *Datacide 2* is a collaboration between Japanese New Yorker Tetsu Inoue and a German sampler and programmer who calls himself Atom Heart. Their compositions range from Frankfurt-style trance to meditative keyboard arpeggios and colourations from Japanese instruments. *I.F.*, meanwhile, negotiates some of the more obvious clichés of ambient music — running water, self-hypnosis tapes and the like — but for "Caravan", their final track. Deep Space Network and Dr Atmo lay sustained, Robert Fripp-style guitar soloing over a surprisingly bluesy, mid-tempo lope.

VARIOUS ARTISTS
If Deejay Was Your Trade
(Blood & Fire, 001)

WHEN success comes in a tidal wave, the recipients can act unpredictably. Simply Red's wealth has led to the launch of Blood & Fire, a label devoted to the kind of reggae that inspired the band in the first place. Punk nostalgics, young roots revivalists and reggae fans alike will delight in this compilation of talk-over DJs, taken from the years 1974 to 1977.

Half spoken, half chanted and sung over booming, echo-drenched dub tracks, the philosophising and insults of talk-over artists such as Tappa Zukie, Dillinger, Prince Jazzbo and Dr Alimantado were as much a part of the punk experience as the guitar bands that became so much more famous.

Assembled from the disorderly tape vaults of Kingston producer Bunny Lee by Steve Barrow, one of reggae's most informed chroniclers, here are 16 tracks that encapsulate the depth and spirit of a vital tradition. The highlights of a faultless selection include I. Roy's "War and Friction", Jah Stitch's "Greedy Girl" and Prince Far I's "Shuffle and Deal", a Rastafarian version of "Deck of Cards" in which the late Far I rumbles and rasps his way through the pack with ominous glee.

DAVID TOOP

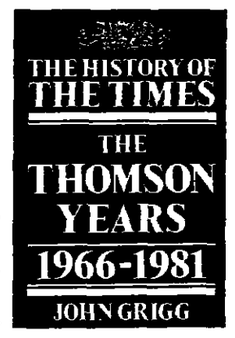
TOP TEN ALBUMS

1	**So Close**	Dina Carroll (A&M)
2	**So Far So Good**	Bryan Adams (A&M)
3	**Debut**	Bjork (One Little Indian)
4	**Everything Changes**	Take That (RCA)
5	**Elegant Slumming**	M People (deConstruction)
6	**Bat Out Of Hell II — Back Into Hell**	Meat Loaf (Virgin)
7	**Both Sides**	Phil Collins (Virgin)
8	**One Woman — The Ultimate Collection**	Diana Ross (EMI)
9	**Music Box**	Mariah Carey (Columbia)
10	**End of Part One — Greatest Hits**	Wet Wet Wet (Precious)

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CONCERT: Is this the sound of 1994?

Bite to match the bark

Afghan Whigs
Astoria, WC2

"I'M going to turn it up, you're so well-behaved," said Greg Dulli of Afghan Whigs, half-way through a set in which the audience was clearly a little distracted as it tried to decide whether it was watching one of 1994's coming things. Dancing and hoopla were not universal, but all eyes were on the Whigs, and not only because the Astoria is one of those clubs where you look straight ahead for fear of finding out what you have trodden in.

The Cincinnati four-piece stand for election as Next Big Things on a platform of growling, grumbling guitars, constructed by Dulli and Rick McCollum and underpinned by John Curley's industrial bass.

Their dark songs speak of sexual frustration and low living which, in a live setting, come screaming out of them almost alien-like. "Fountain And Fairfax" typifies their deliberately twisted type of love song, and even a relatively restrained piece such as "Be Sweet" spits fire, Steve Earle's drumming adding petrol to the flames.

They also have an affection for authentic R&B, punctuating their own material with such soul gems as James Carr's "Dark End of the Street" and the Detroit Spinners' "I'll Be Around", but burying the melodies deep in ironic guitar thrashing.

A greater stir was caused when they did the same to a more widely known song, committing GBH on Prince's "When Doves Cry". The Supremes' "Come See About Me", too, was left distorted and abandoned like some roadside wreck.

Dulli, meanwhile, was clearly unhappy with the audience's studious attention. "Talk to me," he yelled, realising the hint of paranoia by adding: "Love me! Love me!" in mock desperation. As the set came to the boil, the guitar salvoes united for a direct hit with "Debonair" in which Dulli showed his vulnerability with lyrics like: "I'm not the man my actions would suggest/A little boy, I'm tied to you/I fell apart, that's what I always do." This is the sensitivity that lies, hidden from the naked ear, behind the Whigs' wall of sound.

PAUL SEXTON

Gifford defeats the elements as rain casts doubt on weekend programmes

Deep Sensation lands timely victory

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

JOSH Gifford's decision to divert Deep Sensation from tomorrow's valuable Victor Chandler Chase to Wincanton yesterday may prove to have been the shrewdest move of the week.

No sooner had last year's Queen Mother Champion Chase winner justified odds of 9-4 on to win the John Bull Chase and take his career earnings to more than £260,000, than the latest weather bulletins prompted fresh uncertainty over tomorrow's meetings at Ascot and Warwick, where, depending on the elements, the Victor Chandler Chase is due to be staged.

While prospects of racing at Ascot improved marginally, a further half-inch of rain at Warwick during the previous 24 hours meant some water was lying on the Midlands racecourse. Sir Nicholas Beaumont, Ascot's clerk of the course, said: "Things did not look very good this morning but a terrific wind has got up and, provided we only have showers and the forecast of strong winds and sunshine is right, racing should take place."

The going on the hurdles course is heavy while the chase course is soft with heavy patches. After a surviving an 11.30am inspection yesterday, Beaumont will inspect again at 7.30am today. If racing at Ascot is cancelled before noon, the Victor Chandler Chase can be transferred to Warwick, where the going is soft with heavy patches.

Peter McNeile, Warwick's clerk of the course, said last night: "The chase course is not giving me cause for concern but the hurdles course is, as there is some water lying on it. If we just get showers the racecourse will be all right, but if there are sustained bursts of rain, two hours at a time, we will be in trouble.

"I would be surprised if we have to call an inspection before Saturday morning. We were raceable today although obviously as time goes on and more showers come, one gets more despondent."

Given all the uncertainty, no wonder Gifford was a happy man in the Wincanton winner's enclosure. "At least we have got a run into Deep Sensation," he said. "It was very tempting to wait for Ascot but he needed a run and he will now go for the Game Spirit Chase at Newbury before going on to Cheltenham."

Deep Sensation had his supporters on tenterhooks as usual as he displayed the unnerving trait of idling on the run-in before running on again when challenged by Elfast and Toby Tobias.

Toby Tobias was having his first run since suffering a leg injury in the 1992 Gold Cup at Cheltenham and will now return to Wincanton for the Jim Ford Chase on February 24 before having another crack at the National Hunt Festival.

Mark Pitman, whose mother, Jenny, trains the 12-year-old, said: "He still seems to have an engine and we could not be more pleased as he had virtually two years off. The horse has had a good blow and will come on for the run. He was still a bit large today so there is plenty left to work on."

Mrs Pitman earned a 20-1 quote from Corals to train the Gold Cup winner. The Upper Lambourn handler has also entered Royal Athlete, Garrison Savannah and Ryde Again.

Martin Pipe has ten entries for the Gold Cup including Chatam and King's Curate, both of whom are likely to run in the Warwick National on Saturday.

Philip Hobbs also had Cheltenham on his mind yesterday after watching Elaine Tully defy a penalty to win the Corscombe Novices' Hurdle in game style. The former Flat horse, bought for 10,000 guineas at the horses in training sale at Newmarket last autumn, may now go for the Sun Alliance Hurdle.



Russell Rover leads the field on the first circuit of the John Bull Chase at Wincanton yesterday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: TRUMP
(3.15 Edinburgh)
Nb: Media Messenger
(12.45 Edinburgh)

Board retains RTS contract

LOCAL stewards will continue to rely on a racing-controlled service for replays of races after the British Horseracing Board (BHB) announced yesterday that Racecourse Technical Services (RTS) is to keep the camera patrol contract.

The alternative was to give the contract to SIS, the provider of information for betting shops, which also has cameras at Britain's 59 racecourses. Geoff Lomer, the SIS chairman, said: "We are surprised and puzzled that the racing industry has not taken this opportunity to remove duplication of costs, with the consequent financial savings for the future."

Tristram Ricketts, the BHB chief executive, contested SIS's assertion that the decision will be a costly one for racing, pointing out that there would have been £3 million in redundancy costs had RTS failed to retain the contract. This was against direct savings of less than £200,0000 a year from using SIS cameras to help the stewards judge whether the Rules of Racing have been broken.

There was a lively discussion on the 11-man BHB over the decision but RTS won because of fears that the sport could miss out on future contracts which involve live racing from Britain's racecourses. The Jockey Club was accused of foregoing millions of pounds of extra revenue by not being involved when SIS was formed in 1986 and the BHB was determined not to repeat that mistake.

"Unless a financial saving to racing would result from the elimination of dual picture provision, there are strategic advantages for racing in maintaining its own provider of the integrity service," Ricketts added. "With technology moving fast it would perhaps have been premature to have lost control of integrity services."

The BHB is keen to take over RTS, a Levy Board subsidiary. This will be discussed at a Levy Board meeting next Thursday. "Racing's own provider of the integrity service should be in the ownership of a broadly-based racing body on which racecourses are directly represented," Ricketts said.

Brompton Road fails

BROMPTON Road, the only British challenger for the Ir£25,000 Telecom Eireann Thyestes Handicap Chase at Gowran Park yesterday, weakened in the closing stages to finish ninth to Nuaffe (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes). The redesigned fences spelt disaster for punters as the four best-backed horses in the 15-runner line-up were all fallers. Nuaffe actually made more mistakes than any other runner but kept galloping on and, after the leader, High Peak, came down at the second-last fence, Nuaffe stayed on strongly to add this valuable handicap to his previous win in the Troytown Chase at Navan.

The Richard Lee-trained Brompton Road was in the first three up to the fourth-last fence where a slow jump put him out of contention.

Nuaffe's trainer Pat Fahy, celebrating the biggest win of his career, said that Nuaffe would have a brief rest before tackling the Jameson Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse.

EDINBURGH

THUNDERER

12.45 COOL LUKE (nap)
1.15 Capital Punishment
1.45 Legitim
2.15 Centenary Star
2.45 Firm Price
3.15 Mingus
3.40 High Mind

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.45 FIRM PRICE.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM PATCHES) SIS

12.45 DYEWATER MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £1,945: 2m) (13 runners)

1 34 COOL LUKE 37 (B Bailey) G Moore 5-11-9 N Bentley (3) 92
2 DANCE ON SIXPENCE 172F (Mrs I Battle) D Eddy 6-11-9 A Maguire –
3 GOLDEN CAIRN (J Stephenson) W Reed 5-11-9 T Reed –
4 633- LEGION OF HONOUR 29F (Robson/Patterson Partnership) M Naughton 6-11-9 T Jenks (5) 84
5 043-63 MEDIA MESSENGER 11 (Lord Lambton) Denys Smith 5-11-9 P Waggott (5) [illegible]
6 0035-04 MONTRAVE 29 (D St Clair) R Allan 5-11-9 B Storey 89
7 0-6 MUFID 7 (D Pryde) R Lamb 5-11-9 P Niven 88
8 0-00 PESIDANAMICH 11 (A Whillans) A Whillans 6-11-9 P Williams (5) 72
9 3F0-000 CHOIR'S IMAGE 11 (M Gleeson) J Eyre 7-11-4 A Mulholland 83
10 0-0 SHATRAVIV 14 (G Rushton) J Charlton 6-11-4 R Dunwoody 79
11 PRIMO FIGLIO 73F (B) (Townville C C Racing Club) Miss L Siddall 4-10-11 A Thornton (3) –
12 SUPREME SOVIET 175F (J Haldane) J Haldane 4-10-11 J Supple (5) –
13 UNSUSPICIOUS (P Richi) P Rich 4-10-11 P McDermott –

BETTING: 9-4 Cool Luke, 11-4 Media Messenger, 9-2 Legion Of Honour, 8-1 Mufid, 12-1 Montrave, 14-1 others.

1993: ALUM BAY 4-10-11 G McCourt (4-1) N Tinkler 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

COOL LUKE 12½l 4th of 14 to Vasiliev in a novice hurdle at Haydock (2m, soft) with MEDIA MESSENGER (same terms) 12¾l 6th. LEGION OF HONOUR 4½l 3rd of 15 to Linkside in a novice hurdle at Ayr (2m, good) in March. MEDIA MESSENGER 8½l 3rd of 19 to Glenlivy in a novice hurdle at Ayr (2m, good to soft) with CHOIR'S IMAGE (same terms) 23½l 10th and PESIDANAMICH (same terms) short head 11th. PRIMO FIGLIO 2l 2nd of 15 to Sarah-Clare in a claimer at Folkestone (1m 1f 110yd, heavy).
Selection: COOL LUKE

1.15 HOPESWATER NOVICES CLAIMING CHASE (£2,203: 3m) (10 runners)

1 U2-1143 CAPITAL PUNISHMENT 7 (F,G) (J Hinchliffe) M Hammond 8-11-6 C Grant [illegible]
2 468001 EBRO 25 (C,G) (Mrs F Veasey) V Thompson 8-11-6 A Dobbin 81
3 P00P1F QUIET MONEY 7 (D,S) (Ecurteam) M Hammond 7-11-6 P Niven 86
4 P3P0-04 TRAVEL BOUND 7 (J Bancket) J Parkes 9-11-2 A Maguire 77
5 345/54-F LADY BLAKENEY 23 (J Young) B Rothwell 8-11-1 R Dunwoody –
6 412203 CLARE LAD 34 (F,G,S) (C Rogers) R Allan 11-10-12 B Storey 95
7 242358 FLING IN SPRING 11 (V) (Chris D Calvert) Mrs S Bradburne 8-10-10 P Williams (5) 72
8 04286F SANDEDGE 38 (F White) G White 7-10-9 P Waggott (5) 79
9 FP/F-00 BALLYBELL 29 (T Gladson) J Gledson 9-10-6 T Reed –
10 0P/0063 NOBBY 16 (B) (P Hampshire) B Beasley 8-10-6 A Mulholland 81

BETTING: 11-4 Clare Lad, 3-1 Capital Punishment, 9-2 Ebro, 6-1 Travel Bound, 7-1 Quiet Money, 10-1 Fling In Spring, 14-1 Nobby, 16-1 others

1993: THE YANK 7-10-10 B Storey (4-5 fav) M Hammond 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT best effort, beat Truely Royal ¾l in handicap chase at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, good). EBRO beat Wild Atlantic 2½l in novice chase here (2m 4f, good). QUIET MONEY beat Ben The Bomber a distance in a 6-runner novice chase at Southwell (3m 110yd, heavy) with LADY BLAKENEY fell 5th. TRAVEL BOUND 14l 4th to Donegal Style in a novice handicap chase over course and distance (good). CLARE LAD 10¾l 3rd to Inverinate in a novice handicap chase over course and distance (good to firm).
Selection: CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

1.45 WHITEWATER NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,006: 2m) (15 runners)

1 180 JOMOVE 37 (S) (Raby Racing) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-10 R Dunwoody 85
2 5253P3 FORTUNE'S GIRL 29 (BF) (Million In Mind Partnership 3) M Hammond 6-11-9 D Bentley (5) 80
3 14 BAJAN AFFAIR 35 (D,G) (Leading Star Racing) Miss L Siddall 4-11-6 A Thornton (3) 82
4 05-1Y6P SWIFT CONVEYANCE 34 (D,F,G) (J Mitchell) W Kemp 5-11-3 S McDougall (7) [illegible]
5 520-1407 LEGITIM 7 (CD,F) (J Donald) J Jefferson 5-11-2 P Williams (5) 88
6 P15 ERBIL 25 (CD,F) (B Fraser) L Lungo 4-11-2 F Perratt (5) 96
7 050-3F0 BORING 25 (D Neale) W Storey 5-10-12 A Maguire 92
8 508200 RED TEMPEST 7 (J Goldie) J Goldie 6-10-12 L O'Hara 95
9 P082P TAHITIAN 18 (B Todd) N Tinkler 5-10-12 G McCourt 95
10 381 WAMDHA 18 (S) (T Pryke) K Morgan 4-10-11 A S Smith 90
11 08008-0 DANCING STREET 11 (I Anderson) T Craig 6-10-9 C Hawkins 87
12 00004-0 AVISHAYES 78 (BF) (P Davidson-Brown) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-8 P Niven –
13 50-086P RALLYING CRY 29 (V) (M Boyd) R Allan 6-10-2 B Storey 95
14 005P-P0 LEARNED STAR 18 (T Bly) J Eyre 9-10-0 S Lyons (5) 89
15 05-3020 STAGGERING 14 (Miss J M Thompson) M Naughton 5-10-0 T Jenks (5) 91

BETTING: 7-2 Swift Conveyance, 5-1 Avishayes, 7-1 Erbil, Jomove, 8-1 Fortune's Girl, Legitim, 12-1 Bajan Affair, Wamdha, 14-1 Boring, 16-1 others.

1993: TRUMP 4-10-5 B Storey (25-1) C Parker 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

JOMOVE beat Iron Baron 1½l in a 14-runner novice hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 1f 110yd, soft). FORTUNE'S GIRL 12l 3rd of 11 to Carpet Slippers in a novice hurdle at Towcester (3m, heavy). BAJAN AFFAIR beat Chapucci 1½l in a 21-runner novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, good).
SWIFT CONVEYANCE 12l 2nd to Westholme in a novice hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good) with TAHITIAN (3lb better off) 28l 6th. RED TEMPEST 5l 2nd to Joke Bar Billy in a novice handicap hurdle here (2m 4f, good to firm) with RALLYING CRY (3lb better off) 18½l 5th. TAHITIAN 1l 2nd to Regal Aura in a novice handicap hurdle over course and distance (good) with LEGITIM (same terms) head and short head 4th. ERBIL (2lb better off) 2l 5th and BORING (5lb better off) 9l 7th. WAMDHA beat Eve's Treasure 1½l in Market Rasen novice hurdle (2m 1f 110yd, soft) with LEARNED STAR (30lb better off) 30½l 8th.
Selection: TAHITIAN

2.15 WHITEADDER HANDICAP CHASE (£2,801: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

1 223112 SONSIE MO 7 (C,F,G) (T Hardie) Mrs S Bradburne 9-11-12 P Williams (5) 96
2 5F2221 ONE FOR THE POT 7 (C,F,G,S) (P Davies) M Naughton 9-11-11 T Jenks (5) [illegible]
3 361-P35 STEPFASTER 57 (D,F,G) (Mrs A Wyatt) Miss L Siddall 9-11-11 A Thornton (3) 93
4 F1444-0 KIND'A SMART 111 (F,G,S) (B Parker) K Morgan 9-11-10 A S Smith 89
5 13/PP00 BISHOPDALE 44 (D,F,G,S) (S Chadwick) S Chadwick 13-11-8 A Dobbin –
6 U211/F3 CENTENARY STAR 79 (D,BF,F,G,S) (C Buckley) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-6 P Niven 90
7 32-2F04 EASTERN OASIS 62 (C,F,G,S) (J Andrews) J Andrews 11-11-5 A Maguire 95
8 542-F51 CHOICE CHALLANGE 39 (C,D,F,G,S) (D Sills) M Hammond 11-11-2 C Grant 95
9 45F843 CLASSIC MINSTREL 25 (C,G) (T Hardie) Mrs S Bradburne 10-11-1 T Reed 97
10 243140 LAPIAFFE 8 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs B Ramsden) A Harrison 10-10-13 R Dunwoody 97
11 4-55620 MOSS BEE 39 (F) (S Bam) W Reed 7-10-7 R Hodge 99

BETTING: 11-4 One For The Pot, 100-30 Sonsie Mo, 9-2 Choice Challange, 6-1 Centenary Star, 7-1 Stepfaster, 10-1 Classic Minstrel, Kind'A Smart, 12-1 Eastern Oasis, 16-1 others.

1993: ICARUS 7-11-10 L Wyer (85-40 fav) M H Easterby 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

ONE FOR THE POT beat SONSIE MO (1lb worse off) 1½l in a 7-runner conditional jockeys' handicap chase here (2m, good). CENTENARY STAR 16½l 3rd of 9 to Night Guest in a handicap chase at Sedgefield (2m 5f, good) with CLASSIC MINSTREL (2lb worse off) 13l 5th and MOSS BEE (7lb better off) 7l 6th.
EASTERN OASIS 5l 4th of 12 to On The Hooch in a handicap chase at Ayr (3m 1f, good) with BISHOPDALE (same terms) 32l 9th and CLASSIC MINSTREL (5lb better off) brought down 13th. CHOICE CHALLANGE beat Boarding School 3l in an 11-runner handicap chase here (3m, good to firm) with CLASSIC MINSTREL (7lb better off) 5½l 4th and MOSS BEE (8lb better off) 8l 7th.
Selection: CHOICE CHALLANGE

2.45 FASERY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS CLAIMING HURDLE (£2,050: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

1 1125-21 FIRM PRICE 56 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs S McDonald) Mrs M Reveley 13-11-12 G Lee (5) [illegible]
2 2U24P-P PALM HOUSE 14 (C,D,F,G,S) (D Neale) G Moore 9-11-12 N Stocks (5) 70
3 0/ JANE'S AFFAIR 815F (Mrs K Morrell) Mrs A Swinbank 6-11-3 S Wynne –
4 S/35522- VALIANT DASH 364 (CD,F,G,S) (D Batten) S Kettlewell 8-11-0 Mark Roberts (5) 89
5 44/P-UP0 BELLAGROVE 15 (B,G) (J Carson) B Rothwell 6-10-13 G Cahill (5) –
6 0-25030 A GENTLEMAN TWO 25 (G) (J Eyre) J Eyre 8-10-13 S Lyons 78
7 0P0/0-00 HOTDIGGITY 90 (Lt-Col W L Monteith) P Monteith 6-10-10 A Dobbin –
8 28U2FP MAUREEN'S FANCY 7 (Mrs B Cooney) J Parkes 9-10-10 S Mason 62
9 02-FPU GYMCRAK CYRANO 14 (D Sundin) Miss L Plater 5-10-9 D Bentley –
10 6/4P420 SKOLERN 25 (V,C,F,G) (A Harrison) A Harrison 10-10-9 A Thornton 82
11 6P0-50B BLUEBELL TRACK 70 (M Kensington) V Thompson 8-10-8 F Perratt –
12 540040 SAOIRSE 7 (F,S) (K Williams) D Moffatt 6-10-8 D J Moffatt 80
13 6/5650 DOCTOR'S REMEDY 7F (G) (J Adamson) Mrs J Jordan 8-10-6 S Taylor 69

BETTING: 5-4 Firm Price, 3-1 Valiant Dash, 10-1 A Gentleman Two, Palm House, 12-1 Saoirse, 14-1 others.

1993: PANDESSA 6-11-3 R Hodge (9-4 fav) Mrs M Reveley 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

FIRM PRICE beat Master Of The Rock a neck in a 7-runner handicap hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 5f 110yd, good). VALIANT DASH 1½l 2nd of 10 to Pandessa in a conditional jockeys' claiming hurdle over course and distance (good) last January. A GENTLEMAN TWO 5¼l 3rd of 9 to Mystic Memory in an 8-runner amateur riders' handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to firm). MAUREEN'S FANCY 15l 2nd of 12 to Sweet Noble in a conditional jockeys' novice handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: FIRM PRICE

3.15 WATCH WATER HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,348: 3m) (15 runners)

1 04-2615 LEADING PROSPECT 25 (G,S) (J Goodfellow) Mrs J Goodfellow 7-11-12 Mr A Parker (7) 92
2 44F-112 SHAFFIC 45 (BF,G) (P Davidson-Brown) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-10 P Niven 88
3 045F51 THE GREEN FOOL 25 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs B Kane) V Thompson 7-11-8 A Dobbin 90
4 020645- ROSE TABLEAU 253 (F,S) (Mrs H Weiss) J J O'Neill 11-11-4 R Dunwoody 91
5 P03-64P NESSFIELD 46 (D,G,S) (Peyton Racing Club) K Morgan 9-11-4 A S Smith 89
6 143145 OFF THE BRU 29 (V,F,G) (G Lochhart) Mrs S Bradburne 9-11-3 Mr J Bradburne 96
7 1-R3355 SPACE CAPTAIN 28 (G) (E Atkinson) G Moore 7-11-2 N Bentley (3) 98
8 1113-10 TRUMP 37 (C,G) (R Anderson Green) C Parker 5-10-10 B Storey 97
9 415-4 MINGUS 11F (F) (A Antonelli) P Fisher 7-10-10 A Thornton (3) 94
10 326564 PIMS GUNNER 9 (F,G) (A Chappell) M Hammond 6-10-7 D Bentley (5) 91
11 1P-6344 IF YOU SAY SO 28 (G) (S Smith) J Eyre 8-10-1 A Mulholland 94
12 6-05406 HARDIHERO 14 (F,S) (G White) G White 8-10-0 A Maguire [illegible]
13 3356/00 HELLO GEORGE 15 (B,F,G) (Mrs J McFadyen-Murray) D Nolan 11-10-0 R Garritty –
14 146005- REXY BOY 228 (C,S) (J Collins) W Barker 7-10-0 R Marley 80
15 /00FPP PANTO LADY 7 (Mrs K M Lamb) Mrs K Lamb 8-10-0 Miss S Lamb (7) –

Long handicap: Hardihero 9-10, Hello George 9-10, Rexy Boy 9-1, Panto Lady 6-12

BETTING: 7-2 Shaffic, 4-1 The Green Fool, 5-1 Trump, 6-1 Mingus, 6-1 Leading Prospect, 12-1 Off The Bru, 14-1 Pims Gunner, Space Captain, 16-1 others.

1993: TRIDAR 5-11-7 P Williams (4-1) J Jefferson 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

LEADING PROSPECT beat Noctorn Wonder 3½l in handicap hurdle at Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. SHAFFIC 3l 2nd to Master Boston in novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to soft). THE GREEN FOOL beat Tranchetto 2l in handicap hurdle over course and distance (good) with MINGUS (6lb better off) 3l 4th. LEADING PROSPECT (11lb better off) 2l 5th and PIMS GUNNER (16lb better off) 2l 6th. ROSE TABLEAU 4¾l 4th to Sacrossand in amateur riders' handicap hurdle at Perth (3m 110yd, soft) penultimate start with HARDIHERO (12lb better off) a distance 5th. TRUMP beat Only A Rose 4l in handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m 4f, good) penultimate start with SPACE CAPTAIN (7lb better off) 21l 5th.
Selection: THE GREEN FOOL

3.40 DYEWATER MAIDEN HURDLE (Div II: £1,945: 2m) (12 runners)

1 BROWN BOMBER (Miss P Hamilton) D Nolan 5-11-9 R Garritty –
2 0-000 CHALKIEFORT 7 (Mrs B Eggo) W Kemp 5-11-9 X Jones –
3 203-432 HIGH MIND 50 (J Wilson) Miss L Siddall 5-11-9 A Thornton (3) [illegible]
4 KING ATHELSTAN 171F (R Guest) K Morgan 6-11-9 A S Smith –
5 356 PHILDAN 14 (Mrs S Clarke) D Moffatt 5-11-9 D J Moffatt (3) 83
6 83-140 STRONG FLAME 25 (G) (T Henninger) M Hammond 5-11-9 S Lyons (5) –
7 0-00522 VAL DE RAMA 14 (D Morland) Denys Smith 5-11-9 P Waggott (5) 98
8 PRINCESS MAXINE 44F (J Fox) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-4 P Niven –
9 00556 MONASTIC FLIGHT 35 (V) (Railway Inn Partnership) B Rothwell 4-10-11 G Cahill (7) 76
10 6 THALEROS 16 (M Gleeson) G Moore 4-10-11 J Callaghan 83
11 5 BALLON 16 (Whitworth Racing) M Dods 4-10-6 T Reed 86
12 353562 SUMMERS DREAM 35 (Tom's Ten) Mrs P Barker 4-10-6 C Hawkins 85

BETTING: 9-4 King Athelstan, 3-1 Princess Maxine, 9-2 Val De Rama, 6-1 High Mind, 8-1 Phildan, 10-1 others

1993: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS

HIGH MIND 8l 2nd of 13 to Nobody in a novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good). KING ATHELSTAN useful middle-distance Flat handicapper. STRONG FLAME 18l 7th of 14 to Imperial Bid in a novice maiden hurdle here (2m 4f, good) with CHALKIEFORT tailed off last. VAL DE RAMA 3l 2nd to Hit'zem in a novice hurdle at Catterick (2m, soft) with PHILDAN 16l 6th. PRINCESS MAXINE fair Flat performer at around a mile. SUMMERS DREAM 5l 2nd of 15 to Al Forum in Doncaster selling hurdle (2m 110yd, good).
Selection: STRONG FLAME

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Tinkler	10	29	34.5	G McCourt	34	109	31.2
Mrs M Reveley	15	49	30.6	C Grant	33	150	22.0
M Hammond	13	58	22.4	P Niven	26	133	19.5
J Jefferson	3	14	21.4	R Hodge	8	43	18.6
J J O'Neill	7	34	20.6	A Dobbin	10	57	17.5
Denys Smith	11	54	20.4	T Reed	21	126	16.7

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£700 fines follow unplaced effort

THE trainer John Carr and jockey Nick Smith were each fined £700 over the running of the unplaced Ho-Joe in the Healaugh Novices' Hurdle at Wetherby yesterday. The four-year-old finished seventh of the 11 runners, beaten 22 lengths.

Smith told the stewards that his instructions were to drop Ho-Joe in behind and ride him to get the trip, but said that he was unable to persevere entering the final bend as the gelding choked and was not handling the soft ground.

Carr informed the stewards that Ho-Joe was better suited by good ground but was running on soft ground for the fourth consecutive occasion at the owner's insistence to keep him fit.

However, the stewards did not accept either explanation and found them in breach of Rule 151 for not running Ho-Joe on his merits.

Mary Reveley, whose stable has been handicapped by a virus for more than a month, gave further notice of a revival when she sent out her second winner in as many days. Successful with Miss Plum at Kelso on Wednesday, the trainer sent out Grey Power to gain a convincing ten-length triumph in the Cowthorpe Handicap Hurdle.

Assistant-trainer, Keith Reveley, representing his mother, admitted: "It's been a frustrating time but the horses are looking brighter at home now, and it seems as though they are coming out of it."

Threeoutoffour made it two wins from two starts this season in the Keswick Handicap Chase.

[illegible]

☐ The Tote Jackpot is operating at Southwell today (first six races).

THUNDERER

12.30 Lady Sabina. 1.00 Chief Of Staff. 1.30 No Submission. 2.00 Premier Star. 2.30 King Rat. 3.00 Hillzah. 3.30 Milngavie.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

12.30 BLUEBELL MAIDEN STAKES (Div I: £3,348: 1m) (13 runners)

101 (10) 00/- LEGLERE POKEY 88J J Docker 5-9-0 W Adams –
102 (11) CHAIRMANS CHOICE 32J A Jarvis 4-8-13 L Dettori –
103 (7) /0-6 DISTANT SPRING 7 J Harris 4-8-13 D Biggs 70
104 (12) 00- HARLOSH 226 J Wainwright 4-8-13 J Fanning 90
105 (1) 40-4 HAWAYMYSON 13 A Stringer 4-8-13 T Quinn 94
106 (4) 000- OSCAR THE SECOND 101 C Fairhurst 4-8-13 J Fanning 84
107 (2) 0/0- ROYAL EXECUTIVE 42J K Bridgwater 4-8-13 T Wall 91
108 (3) 620- SKY WISH 79J Mrs V Aconley 4-8-13 S Webster 96
109 (5) 26-0 TAKE IT IN CASH 13 R Dickin 5-8-9 Michelle Thomas (7) 89
110 (8) 0- ELEANORDEMONTFORT 24 T Naughton 4-8-8 Paul Eddery –
111 (6) 200- LADY SABINA 44 O O'Neill 4-8-8 L Suthern (7) [illegible]
112 (13) 060- SAXON MAGIC 16J (B) J Bennett 4-8-8 J Quinn 90
113 (9) 63-6 WESTERING 7 J Harris 4-8-8 Paul Eddery 98

9-4 Sky Wish, 3-1 Lady Sabina, 5-1 Hawaymyson, Westering, 7-1 Distant Spring, Take It In Cash, 16-1 Chairmans Choice, 20-1 others.

1.00 BUTTERCUP HANDICAP (Amateurs: £2,243: 7f) (16)

201 (6) 501- CAUSLEY 18 (C,D,F,G,S) B McMahon 9-11-7 E McMahon 92
202 (14) 002- CHIEF OF STAFF 30 (D,F,G) J Pearce 5-11-3 Mrs L Pearce 96
203 (7) 000- BIRTELIMAR 18 (C,G) R Spicer 5-11-1 Miss E Gatehouse (4) 89
204 (2) 0/6- FLY TO THE END 276 J Hanson 4-10-8 J Baker (4) –
205 (12) 003- HARVEST ROSE 46 (F) O O'Neill 5-10-6 A Mitchell (4) 88
206 (10) 00-0 JORDYWRATH 4 (C,G) D Chapman 4-10-4 Miss R Clark (4) 86
207 (1) 500- MOSWAN 14 (E,G) S Dow 5-10-3 T Cuff (4) 98
208 (13) 65-0 BEATLE SONG 11 (G,D,BF,F,G) C Hill 6-10-2 I McLelland (4) 93
209 (4) 000- ANNIVERSAIRE 123 Bob Jones 4-10-1 Miss D J Jones (4) –
210 (6) 200- TOSHIBA COMET 29 (C,F,G,S) Pat Mitchell 7-9-11 Miss F Burke (4) 95
211 (9) 44-3 PUSEY STREET BOY 11 (D,F,G,S) J Bosley 7-9-9 Mrs S Bosley (4) 96
212 (5) 300- BILL MOON 87 (D,F,G) P Felden 8-9-9 Miss J Feilden [illegible]
213 (15) 000- JOKERS JOKER 44 J H Wilson 4-8-6 Miss J Bond (4) 85
214 (16) 4/0- STAMSHAW 29 B McMahon 5-8-9 Miss S Johnston (7) –
215 (3) 000- GLENCROFT 18 (B,C,D,F,G,S) D Chapman 10-9-5 M Knestley (4) –
216 (11) 000- LILLAH DARAK 18 (F) A Jones 6-9-5 Miss Diana Jones 97

3-1 Pusey Street Boy, 7-2 Causley, 5-1 Chief Of Staff, 8-1 Harvest Rose, 10-1 Bill Moon, 16-1 Glencroft, Stamshaw, 20-1 others.

1.30 COWSLIP LIMITED GUARANTEED SWEEPSTAKES (£2,243: 7f) (11)

301 (10) 000- CAPTAIN TANDY 293 K Bridgwater 5-9-12 T Wall –
302 (4) 21-5 EXPRESS SERVICE 18 (B,D,G) W O'Gorman 5-9-12 Emma O'Gorman (3) 91
303 (5) 05-6 HERSHEBAR 4 (B,C,G) S Bowring 4-9-12 G Strange (7) 83
304 (2) 00-0 KENTINS 6 D Nicholls 4-9-12 Alex Greaves –
305 (11) 20-1 NO SUBMISSION 7 (C,G,S) D Chapman 8-9-12 L Dettori 96
306 (1) 00-1 BAD 7 (CD,G) S Woods 4-9-12 W Woods 90
307 (3) 00-0 RED FAN 7 (B,C,G) M Dods 4-9-12 S Webster 78
308 (9) 300- NELLIE'S GAMBLE 31 (CD,G,S) A Stringer 4-9-7 T Quinn 85
309 (8) 71-5 JUST GREENWICH 7 (V,D,BF,G) P Evans 3-8-4 D Holland 97
310 (6) 540- LADY SILK 88 J Hetherton 3-8-4 N Carlisle [illegible]
311 (7) 100- TIMES ZANDO 101 (D,F,G) J H Wilson 3-8-4 J Fanning 99

5-2 Bad, 3-1 No Submission, 5-1 Just Greenwich, 6-1 Express Service, 7-4 Lady Silk, 8-1 Hershebar, 10-1 Nellie's Gamble, Times Zando, 16-1 others.

2.00 BLUEBELL MAIDEN STAKES (Div II: £3,348: 1m) (12)

401 (11) /00- BITOUT THE MIDDLE 20 J Harris 5-9-0 T Williams –
402 (9) 60-6 BODDINGTON PLAYER 13 R Hollinshead 4-8-13 S Perks 78
403 (8) 00-6 MBEBE 4 (V) D Thom 4-8-13 L Dettori 75
404 (2) 5600- PACIFIC POWER 348 W O'Gorman 4-8-13 Emma O'Gorman (3) 91
405 (6) 00-0 PREMIER STAR 13 (B) M Dods 4-8-13 J Weaver 98
406 (1) 0 TRAIL OF TEARS 7 W Haigh 4-8-13 Dale Gibson 87
407 (4) 000- SAFE ARRIVAL 360 P Evans 5-8-9 D Holland –
408 (10) 00-2 SWINGING TICH 7 B McMahon 5-8-9 T Quinn [illegible]
409 (7) 50-3 CRAMONA 7 E Alston 4-8-8 J Quinn 80
410 (5) 00-0 MANABEL 13 S Bowring 4-8-8 G Strange (7) –
411 (12) 2-62 QUEENS CONSUL 7 B Rothwell 4-8-8 Alex Greaves 98
412 (3) 0 SUPER WIN 7 J Carr 4-8-8 W Newnes –

9-4 Queens Consul, 3-1 Pacific Power, 4-1 Swinging Tich, 5-1 Premier Star, 8-1 Boddington Player, 14-1 Cramona, 16-1 Trail Of Tears, 20-1 others.

2.30 DAISY CONDITIONS STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,231: 6f) (7)

501 (7) 112- MR BERGERAC 48 (D,BF,S) B Palling 8-7 D Holland 94
502 (6) 55-3 VALIANT MAN 13 (B,S) J Whitton 9-3 J Williams 86
503 (1) 21-2 KING RAT 13 (BF,F) M Johnston 8-11 J Weaver 94
504 (5) 23P- RAPIER POINT 89 P Haslam 8-11 T Williams [illegible]
505 (2) 0- WADADA 116 M Leach 8-11 S Webster –
506 (3) 50-3 FLOATING TRIAL 10 (V,C,D,G) D Nicholls 8-10 Alex Greaves 72
507 (4) 5-6 SOPHISTICATED BABY 10 C Allen 8-6 M Baird (7) –

7-4 Mr Bergerac, 9-4 King Rat, 5-2 Rapier Point, 10-1 Floating Trial, 12-1 Valiant Man, 33-1 Sophisticated Baby, 50-1 Wadada.

3.00 RYEGRASS HANDICAP (£2,758: 1m 3f) (10)

601 (5) 12-1 HILLZAH 11 (CD,F,G,S) R Bastiman 6-10-5 (5ex) H Bastiman (7) 97
602 (4) 04-1 ROYAL CITIZEN 7 (V,C,G) J Bottomley 5-9-11 (5ex) L Dettori 92
603 (6) 70-4 EL NIDO 13 (D,F,G,S) M Camacho 6-9-7 L Charnock 89
604 (7) 40-1 SHARP SENSATION 13 (CD,G) D Nicholls 4-9-3 Alex Greaves 92
605 (2) 000- MODEST HOPE 17 (C,F,G) B Richmond 7-9-2 J Williams –
606 (10) 004- BRONZE MAQUETTE 81 (C,G) B McMath 4-9-1 J Weaver [illegible]
607 (8) 004- ROUSITTO 15J (D,F,S) R Hollinshead 6-8-13 A Garth (5) 88
608 (9) 000- BRESIL 55J A Jarvis 5-8-12 T Quinn 94
609 (1) 30-3 PONDICHERRY 16 (G) S Woods 4-8-12 W Woods 96
610 (3) 45-3 GOLD SURPRISE 7 (B,S) S Kettlewell 5-8-11 T Williams 98

5-2 Hillzah, 7-2 Royal Citizen, 4-1 El Nido, 11-2 Bronze Maquette, 6-1 Sharp Sensation, 7-1 Bresil, Rousitto, 10-1 Pondicherry, 12-1 others.

3.30 FOXGLOVE HANDICAP (£3,348: 1m 6f) (10)

1 (6) 804- HORIZON 17 (B,CD,F,G) T Thomson Jones 6-10-0 D Biggs 91
2 (8) 324- WHITE WILLOW 18J (D,BF,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 5-9-12 T Quinn 89
3 (5) 212- LOOKINGFORARAINBOW 18 (CD,BF,F,G) Bob Jones 6-9-11 M Wigham 91
4 (2) 01-3 IOTA 11 (G,S) J Hinds 5-9-1 Paul Eddery 98
5 (1) 206- GHALYAAR AVIATOR 16 (V,CD,F,G) J Bottomley 5-8-12 G Bardwell 84
6 (3) 2-55 ARCTIC GUEST 8 (CD,F,G) C Smith 4-8-10 K Rutter (5) 93
7 (10) 11-6 ABSALOM'S PILLAR 13 (CD,G,S) J Hetherton 4-8-5 N Carlisle 98
8 (8) 326- WESTFIELD MOVES 184 (C,F,G) H Collingridge 6-8-2 J Quinn 88
9 (7) 2-11 MILNGAVIE 8 (F,G,S) M Johnston 4-7-10 (4ex) J Fanning [illegible]
10 (4) 05-0 MASTER'S CROWN 7 (CD,G) M Chapman 6-7-7 Darren Moffatt (5) –

3-1 Lookingforarainbow, 7-2 Milngavie, White Willow, 5-1 Horizon, 6-1 Absalom's Pillar, 10-1 Iota, 12-1 Arctic Guest, 20-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Thomson Jones, 9 winners from 38 runners, 23.7%; W O'Gorman, 42 from 221, 19.0%; R Spicer, 12 from 65, 18.5%; S Woods, 5 from 27, 18.5%; J Hetherton, 8 from 47, 17%; A Stringer, 7 from 42, 16.7%.

JOCKEYS: D Holland, 18 winners from 72 rides, 25.0%; L Dettori, 18 from 79, 22.7%; Alex Greaves, 61 from 271, 22.5%; J Weaver, 9 from 44, 20.5%; D Biggs, 32 from 190, 16.8%; K Rutter, 7 from 44, 15.9%.

[illegible]

Wincanton

Going: good to soft

12.50 (2m 6f) 1, TOP BRASS (N Williamson, 8-1); 2, Spaulding Flame (M A Fitzgerald, 8-1); 3, Place Stephanie (L Dace, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Southerly Gale (6th), 7-2 Spread Your Wings (ur), 11-2 Emperor Buck (5th), 8 General Wolfe (4th), 10 Colette's Choice, 25 Ardscud, Lets Rumble, Rakais River, 33 Shock Tactics, 40 Tamage, 50 Anleified, Cadoive (pu), Rock Diamond, 66 Devilosity, Gushka, Quago, Saracen's Boy (pu), 100 Balustrade (pu), Perlea Lady. 22 ran. NR: Royal Irish. 1¼l, 10l, 4l, 2½l, 8l. K Bailey at Lambourn. Tote: £20.10; £3.60, £2.20, £4.70. DF: £47.60. CSF: £73.17.

1.20 (2m hdle) 1, MISS EQUILIA (L Reynolds, 6-1); 2, Style And Class (L Dace, 6-1); 3, Alosaili (M Stevens, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Cardinal Bird (4th), 4 Society Guest (ur), 13-2 Chiaroscuro, 10 Exact Analysis, 11 Kintaro, 14 Denngily (pu), 20 Baybeejay, 33 Grollus (6th), 40 Mariolino, 50 Court Appeal, Lucky Blue (5th). 14 ran. Nk, 2l, 8l, 2½l, ¾l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £8.10; £2.60, £1.80, £6.90. DF: £38.90. Trio: £127.10. CSF: £40.84. Tricast: £530.91.

1.50 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, AUCTION LAW (J Frost, 10-1); 2, Master Oats (N Williamson, 11-4 fav); 3, Sunley Bay (A Maguire, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Cool And Easy (4th), 5 Catch The Cross, 10 Warner For Winners, 11 Fils Concord, 12 Rafiki (5th), 16 Mighty Falcon (pu), 16 Shaston (6th), 20 Glenbrook D'Or, Pamber Priory (pu), 33 False Economy (pu), 66 Tagmoun Chaufour. 14 ran. ¾l, 10l, 15l, 8l, 4l. D Barons at Kingsbridge. Tote: £17.90; £4.60, £2.80, £2.50. Trio: £121.80. DF: £66.70. CSF: £38.00. Tricast: £275.50.

2.20 (2m 6f hdle) 1, ELAINE TULLY (M Hourigan, 7-1); 2, Talbot (J Railton, 13-2); 3, Glentower (R Dunwoody, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Smith's Band, 3 Spuffington (4th), 7 Simon Joseph, 14 Eastern River, 16 Achieved Ambition, My Dear Good Man (5th), 20 Sato Giant, 33 Major Miner, Merlin Rocket (pu), Mr Wilbur (6th), Pharoah's Son (pu), 50 Beachy Glen (su), Cumrew Nephew (bd), Green's Game, It's Confidential (pu), Mahamoopool, Master Byward (pu), Miss Cruise, Miss Parkes. 22 ran. NR: Bitter Aloe. 1½l, ¾l, 1l, dist, 2½l. P Hobbs at Minehead. Tote: £8.20; £2.80, £3.10, £2.80. DF: £54.50. CSF: £56.33.

2.50 (2m 5f ch) 1, DEEP SENSATION (D Murphy, 4-9 fav); 2, Elfast (G McCourt, 10-1); 3, Toby Tobias (R Dunwoody, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 12 Poppets Pet (5th), 66 Hickelton Lad (4th), Russell Rover (pu). 6 ran. ¾l, 3l, 30l, ¾l. J Gifford at Findon. Tote: £1.40; £1.20, £3.10. DF: £3.20. CSF: £6.11.

3.20 (2m ch) 1, NICKLUP (B Powell, 4-1 fav); 2, Prudent Peggy (J Frost, 10-1); 3, West Lodge Lady (P Holley, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Kind Velocity (pu), Magpoor Green (4th), 11-2 Fantasy World, 13-2 Barbossa Oricy (pu), 12 Kall (5th), 14 Hand Out (6th), 25 Tarnish Star (pu), 33 Palm Swift, 50 Bago (pu), Gladys Emmanuel (pu), Platinum Springs (bd). 14 ran. 5l, 10l, 2½l, 10l, 20l. T Forster at Wantage. Tote: £5.50; £2.40, £2.10, £9.30. DF: £19.30. Trio: £257.00. CSF: £38.65. Tricast: £1,541.24.

3.50 (2m hdle) 1, GALES CAVALIER (R Dunwoody, 11-4 fav); 2, Desert Run (A Maguire, 5-1); 3, Coney Road (A McCabe, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Friendly Fellow, 5 Brave Highlander (4th), 12 Be De Soo (5th), 16 Four Hearts, 20 Fifth In Line (su), Greenfield Tom, Away, Journeys Friend (ro), 25 Biddlestone Boy, Comediman, 33 Mamee Boy (ro), Three Of Clubs, 50 Golden Fellow (pu), Prince Teston (6th), 66 Cornelius O'Dea (pu), 100 Maggie Tee, Mystical Mistral (pu), Rivage Bleu. 20 ran. NR: Polden Pride. 4l, hd, 1½l, 7l, 8l. D Gandolfo at Wantage. Tote: £3.70; £2.60, £1.50, £2.30. DF: £10.80. CSF: £17.19.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £28940.77 carried forward to Southwell today).

Placepot: £1,832.90.

Wetherby

Going: soft

1.10 (2m hdle) 1, Native Worth (P Williams, 9-4; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Netherby Said (33-1); 3, Shadeshka (7-1). Devilry 13-8 fav. 11 ran. 1½l, ¾l. J Jefferson. Tote: £3.20; £1.20, £17.90, £2.20. DF: £542.90. CSF: £64.85.

1.40 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Concert Paper (K Davies, 16-1); 2, River Bounty (5-2); 3, Cross Cannon (7-2). The Malakin 15-8 fav. 7 ran. 25l, 21l. R O'Leary. Tote: £18.30; £3.90, £1.90. DF: £27.80. CSF: £51.63.

2.10 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Clyde Ranger (C Grant, Evens fav, Thunderer's nap); 2, Shalfoe Abbey (20-1); 3, Moneghy Man (14-1). 10 ran. 30l, ¾l. M Hammond. Tote: £1.90; £1.10, £2.80, £1.70. DF: £16.10. CSF: £20.62.

2.40 (2m hdle) 1, Grey Power (P Niven, 5-1); 2, Homs Columbus (5-2 fav); 3, Kanndabil (14-1). 11 ran. 10l, 7l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £6.20; £2.70, £1.20, £3.20. DF: £9.80. Trio: £62.40. CSF: £17.54. Tricast: £164.05.

3.10 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Threeoutoffour (M Brennan, 3-1 fav); 2, [illegible] (11-2); 3, Matt Reid (6-1). Candy Tuft 3-1 jt-fav. 8 ran. 12l, 7l. O Brennan. Tote: £3.70; £1.70, £1.50, £2.00. DF: £16.50. CSF: £18.35. Tricast: £71.20.

3.40 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Scottton Banks (L Wyer, 7-4 fav); 2, Al's Alibi (11-4); 3, Wey Man (10-1). 18 ran. 20l, 2½l. M H Easterby. Tote: £3.10; £1.50, £1.50, £2.20. DF: £4.90. CSF: £8.06. Placepot: £81.30.

Lingfield Park

Going: standard

1.30 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Robleiy (R Marley, 7-4 fav); 2, Grog (2-1); 3, Al Forum (11-4). 8 ran. 8l, 30l. N Walker. Tote: £2.20; £1.10, £1.10, £1.10. DF: £3.80. CSF: £5.58.

2.00 (2m hdle) 1, Ben Zabeedy (J Osborne, 2-1 fav); 2, Masrouq (8-1); 3, Barton Royal (50-1). 15 ran. NR: Red Leader. Hd, 1l. R Akehurst. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £2.50, £36.20. DF: £6.70. CSF: £20.22.

2.30 (2m hdle) 1, Blasket Hero (J Osborne, 8-1); 2, Jameah (7-4 fav); 3, Jadidh (11-2). 11 ran. 5l, 20l. Mrs S Williams. Tote: £11.70; £3.40, £1.80, £2.80. DF: £15.80. Trio: £18.40. CSF: £29.62. Tricast: £94.68.

3.00 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Sashi (J Osborne, 4-5 fav); 2, West Bay (16-1); 3, Sing The Blues (10-1). 10 ran. 10l, 2½l. C Weedon. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £1.90, £3.60. DF: £10.60. Trio: £66.70. CSF: £14.98. Tricast: £72.80.

3.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Prowaite Girl (S Fox, [illegible]); 2, Hullo Mary Doll (Evens fav); 3, [illegible] Minor (9-2). 5 ran. NR: Nearly Honest. 3l, [illegible]. G Balding. Tote: £2.30. DF: £1.80. CSF: [illegible]

4.00 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Colossus Of Roads (M Lewis, 4-6 fav); 2, Mighty Maurice (4-1); 3, Fawley Flyer (6-1). 7 ran. NR: Tragic Romance, Toughenoutoflook. 3l, 1l. T Thomson Jones. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £2.60. DF: £2.30. CSF: £4.65. Placepot: £22.60.

Records for spectators, horses and meetings are in prospect as the new season comes under orders tomorrow

Enthusiasm the secret of point-to-point's success

Brian Beel, point-to-point correspondent, foresees further growth for an amateur sport gaining in popularity

Point-to-point enthusiasts will be out in force over the next five months for a season which promises to break last year's records for the sport. Five fixtures have been added to the already busy schedule, bringing the total to 210, and the number of horses taking part looks likely to exceed the 3,705 which ran in 1993.

The enthusiasm of the participants is one of the main reasons more spectators are likely to be attracted to Larkhill, on Salisbury plain, and Higham, near Colchester, tomorrow as the season opens than normally attend many National Hunt race meetings. To the point-to-point owner, a race is the climax of months of careful preparation. And the excitement of the rider, galloping three miles over 20 fences with mud flying and birch cracking, spills over to the spectators.

Point-to-point is a country sport for country-loving people, picnicking in the car parks and happy to roam without the constraints found at racecourses.

There are those who profit by it. An enthusiast soon builds up a knowledge of runners and riders and is prepared to have a tilt at the bookmakers.

This season there are new meetings and venues among the 14 point-to-point areas which span England, Scotland and Wales, of which Devon and Cornwall, with 25 meetings, is the largest. One of the oldest hunts, the Bilsdale, is holding its own point-to-point for the first time, at Easingwold, near York, having once shared with the Hurworth 70 years ago. Two others, the Farmers' Bloodhounds at Heythrop, north of Oxford, and the College Valley, at Alnwick on the Northumberland coast, are also new to the list.

The Piccadilly Hunt Club, first held three years ago, returns for its second meeting, on the infield of Hereford racecourse, on the Friday evening prior to the Torrington Farmers, which traditionally ends the season at Umberleigh, north Devon, on June 11.

The National Festival, sponsored by Citroen, is the fifth addition and promises to be the highlight of the season with six open races. The Festival, on April 27 at Garthorpe, Leicestershire, is expected to become the Cheltenham of point-to-pointing, a gathering of the sport nation wide to produce genuine champions and raise funds for this amateur sport.

In addition to its support of the Festival, Citroen will be sponsoring three of the races at the meeting including the feature, the National Festival Club Citroen Supreme men's open. This year there are no pre-conditions to entry for any of the events other than having taken part at two previous meetings. Perhaps in future each event could be given a more competitive edge by having horses that have been placed in the first three in qualifying events earlier in the season.

Although the Jockey Club would have allowed increased prize-money, the organising committee decided to conform to the norm of £250 for open race winners, but to give generous travelling expenses. Those who travel a minimum of 50 miles to Garthorpe will receive £25, and this sum increases according to distance to £125 for those whose journey is in excess of 200 miles.

Despite the enlarged fixture list, there are only two new courses. With the demise of Llantarnum, which is to be developed, the Tredegar Farmers move to Magor. As the Holcombe Harriers move back to Whittington from Aintree, the inside of another National Hunt course will be used for both the Blankney and the Grove & Rufford going to Southwell.

Land Rover, in its ninth year of sponsoring the men's open championship, is now the only national sponsor with qualifiers leading to a final at a racecourse. This is again at Towcester but, at last, a clash has been avoided as it is to be run on the evening of May 9, the day before the United Hunt meeting at Folkestone instead of on the same day.

Much of the impact of the BMW confined series has been lost with the winner to be decided on a points basis rather than by the customary final at Cheltenham. The ladies' open fares worse, however, as it is unsponsored for the first time since 1976.

Russell, Baldwin and Bright continue to sponsor maiden races in the West leading to a final at Chepstow on Easter Tuesday; Lowe Bell has a similar series in the South and South East determined on a points basis, while the most prize-money donated without any overall competition is by the feed merchants, Dodson & Horrell, who sponsor all 32 Point-to-Point Owners' Association (PPOA) races across the country.

Only minor rule changes have been made to come into effect this season and concern mainly administration on the day. One change to become effective in 1995 is proving more controversial. A gap must be provided at each fence so that runners can be diverted if a first-circuit faller is causing an obstruction. This is sensible, but why must those who are diverted be disqualified while a tailed-off horse, who waits for the obstruction to be cleared, be awarded the race?

Shamarphil to make her mark in early qualifier

By Brian Beel

THE Times Rising Stars series, introduced last year to help promising young point-to-pointers graduate to hunter chases on regulation racecourses, has proved an outstanding success.

A second series gets underway next month with eight qualifiers, starting at Wincanton on February 10 and culminating in the final at Newbury on March 25. Gold Shot won the final at Worcester last year, but is injured and will not be able to defend his title.

However, a number of good horses emerged during the 1993 point-to-point season including Shamarphil. After her Taunton third, she disappointed in the Worcester final but subsequently ran her best race in her last outing, at Newton Abbot. She looks one to note if returning in next month's Wincanton qualifier.

Brian Nettley's Lingfield winner, Mr Murdock, is now nine and is not qualified, but he has a useful substitute in Folkestone winner Roving Report. Wincanton will be a handy course for him and also for Flame O'Frensi, winner of six of her nine races last season. Another who could go well here is Synderborough Lad.

The Hereford qualifier should attract the best from Wales, which include Lady Llanfair, Jack Sound and Parkhbride, as well as the Penny Grainger locally-trained Cool Relation.

The powerful stable of Caroline Saunders will be much in evidence at Huntingdon and Nottingham. Her best representative could prove to be Johnny Greenall's Sunny Mount, who has won on all 11 completed outings in point-to-points. The same owner will be upgrading his six-year-old, Jimmy Cross. Richard Russell has an exciting prospect, Rostar, in the Saunders stable. He ran twice in Ireland last year, winning easily.

Davy Blake is raring to go according to his owner-trainer Norman Dalgetty, and could repeat last season's success at Kelso. Two others of interest around the Scottish borders will be Festival Fancy and Royal Stream.

Last year's champion jockey Alastair Crow, has the pick in Call Me Citizen, Call Vina and Shean Deas. Whichever he chooses to ride at Bangor must be treated with respect. At this venue, Pam Sykes's Best De Paix deserves to be given a chance after finishing second this season with three successive victories.

Two to keep an eye on at Garthorpe are Extra Beat, a seven-year-old placed in hurdles, and the former Irish point-to-point winner Evening Rush, who is with Anthea Farrell.

Another winning ex-Irish hunter, Little Martina, has been bought by Di Grissell and is a possible for the last of the Point-to-Pointers at Lingfield.

THE TIMES RISING STARS QUALIFIERS: Feb 10: Wincanton. Feb 14: Hereford. Feb 19: Larkhill. Feb 24: Nottingham. Mar 1: Nottingham. Mar 4: Wincanton. Mar 9: Bangor. Mar 15: Sedgefield. Mar 19: Newton Abbot. Mar 21: Lingfield Final: Mar 25: Newbury.



MICHAEL POWELL

Dare looks forward to the new point-to-point season for which she is 7-4 second favourite to regain the women's championship she has already won five times

Dare has double century in her sights



Andrew Longmore meets the riding half of the West Country's top combination

For a jockey who has already put one thumbprint on history and is within reach of adding another, Alison Dare has a very low opinion of herself. Questions about ambitions, courage and confidence, the standard prompts for sportspeople to indulge their arrogance, are met with blank eyes and gentle self-criticism.

She is wary of setting goals, in case she fails to reach them, so when Russki cantered home at the Chaddesley Corbett meeting last year to give Dare her 174th winner, a record by a woman rider, the feat was more a tribute to the powers of "just muddling along" than the fulfilment of a lifetime quest.

As she begins her seventeenth season in point-to-points, at the age of 36, with a ride at Larkhill tomorrow, the only concession to burning ambition is expressed in a tone which begs apology for the cheek: "I would like to ride 200 winners before I finish." If she maintains her usual strike-rate, she should be there before the end of the season.

In 1991, year of the fourth of her five women's titles, she had 26 winners from 38 rides, a strike-rate of 68 per cent, which speaks volumes for her consistency and for the training skills of Dick Bainbridge, a Gloucestershire sheep farmer with a genius for revitalising cantankerous old campaigners.

In a small, semi-professional way, the Bainbridge-Dare combination has been the point-to-pointing equivalent of Martin Pipe and Peter Scudamore. They are deadly on the West Country circuit, but raid further afield if necessary, and their success incites admiration in some quarters, envy and accusation in others.

"We get some criticism for being too professional about it, but I think if you do a job, you should do it properly," she said, "but that's the fun in point-to-point, there are many different levels. You don't have to take it as seriously as we do."

If she had wanted to, Dare could have graduated to the wider world of National Hunt. She has ridden 18 hunter chase winners under Rules, known the heartbreak of falling at the last at Cheltenham with the race as good as won, held her own against the likes of Scudamore and Francome — and been bawled out by Steve Smith Eccles, but, not once, has she felt the urge to swim into a bigger pond.

Indeed, her assessment of a woman's place in racing does not put her in the vanguard of the feminist movement: "I don't think National Hunt is a game for women. At the end of a three-mile chase, when you've got to get down to it, women are just not strong enough. I suppose I'm not really an ambitious person. I like to do something well and I'm quite determined, but I never set out with the intention of getting to the top."

Dare is that rarity in sport, a person entirely happy with her lot. In the mornings, she rides out for Bainbridge, in the afternoon, she does some clipping for the Beaufort Hunt. In the summer, she might help out at a friend's fruit farm or help break in some horses for the following season.

The fun comes not so much from winning, but from spotting talent in the black and white print of the sales catalogue, backing a hunch and being proved right. At times, Bainbridge's 12-strong yard houses more rogues than D wing at Wormwood Scrubs, more invalids than a nursing home.

"We look for horses that have shown some form under Rules, but who have gone a bit sour for some reason. Dick is a genius at outwitting horses, staying one step ahead of them and getting them round to his way of thinking. He can be hard on them, but sometimes that's what they need. Spoilt children aren't always happy, are they?"

Equally, Dare herself is a testament to the character-changing power of the horse. Brought up at Winterborne just north of Bristol, she did not ride a horse until she was ten and only considered race-riding when she stood at the final fence of a point-to-point during a day out from college.

On the ground, she is shy, charmingly diffident and disconcertingly timid; on a horse, she is strong, determined, sharp and fearless. "She's a professional among amateurs," Bainbridge said. "She'll always have her horse in the right place at the right time and always be assessing the other horses around her. She's a good tactician."

The only doubt clouding her thoughts concerns the career prospects of a skilled horsewoman with an out-of-date diploma in applied biology: "I do think about a career. I'm approaching 40 with no job and no money, but I've got a lot of friends in high-powered jobs who are not happy. They are well-paid, have a big mortgage and are no better off than I am. At least, I'm doing what I want." And, though you would have to wring it out of her, doing it rather well.

Careless talk cuts odds over King's title challenge

By Brian Beel

A PLANNED stable betting coup on Peter King for the men's riding title was thwarted when one of the owners broke rank at a pre-Christmas party and informed a shrewd South Midlands punter, who immediately had £5,000 to £50 and £2,500 to £50 with two bookmakers specialising in this event.

"I was conned," admitted bookmaker Des Gleeson, when asked what price he would lay about a rider who had no winners in 1992 and only three last season. The offer of 100-1 was snapped up.

King is in the powerful yard of Richard Barber and has taken over the rides left vacant by the retirement of Justin Farthing, the 1991 champion.

The plan of the connections had been to wait for the start of the season, when the bookmakers would have their usual unbalanced books on two or three of the well-known riders, before pouncing. The odds offered may not have been quite so great but the take-out would have been considerably more. King is now available at a top price of 8-1.

The 3-1 title favourite is last year's runner-up, Julian Pritchard. Assistant to Henrietta Knight, his price is a bit tight as, although riding mainly in the West Midlands, he is likely to have the occasional raid into Jon Trice-Rolph's territory. The Chipping Norton rider is at 4-1 and will be on duty for Jenny Pidgeon and his own stable.

Last year's champion, Alastair Crow, seems slightly overpriced at 6-1 considering he has the choice of 18 from his family's Shropshire yard.

Robert Alner is also quoted at 6-1. The 2-1 on favourite at this time last year, he returns to the saddle having broken a leg last February 20. Now a successful National Hunt trainer, Alner will ride for Harry Welstead.



Trice-Rolph: 4-1 chance

Shorter at 4-1 and representing poor value is Johnny Greenall. If the title came his way he would be delighted, but riding hunter chase winners is a first priority.

The largest bet laid so far this season is for Perry Harding-Jones, the East Anglian rider, who finished last season with ten winners. Gleeson stands to pay out £20,000, having taken one single bet of £300 at 66-1.

Last year's women's champion, Polly Curling, has been backed from 9-4 to 6-4 favourite to stage a repeat. She displaces Alison Dare, who has drifted to 7-4. Linda Blackford, runner-up to Dare in 1992, had last season curtailed by injury, and she is a 5-1 chance.

Sadly missing from the scene will be Jenny Litston, whose recovery from her Larkhill injury last February, is painfully slow. The Taunton area PPOA held a fund-raising effort at the Bath and West showground on Wednesday, with future events planned to raise money to purchase equipment for her needs.

Point-to-point season

January

15: Army at Larkhill; Easton Harriers at Higham.

22: Cambridgeshire Harriers at Cottenham; Mid Devon Foxhounds at Ottery St Mary; Point-to-Point Owners' Club at Barbury Castle.

29: Dunston Harriers at Ampton; Hursley Hambledon at Badbury Rings; Jedforest at Friar's Haugh; Tweseldown Club at Tweseldown.

February

5: New Forest Foxhounds at Larkhill; North Cornwall at Wadebridge; Old Raby Hunt Club at Witton Castle; Oxford University Hunt Club at Kingston Blount; Thurlow at Horseheath; West Percy & Mitvain at Alnwick; Wheatland at Eyton-on-Severn.

12: Badsworth at Wetherby; East Cornwall at Great Trethew; Haydon at Corbridge; South Dorset at Milborne St Andrew; South East Hunts Club at Charing; South Midlands Area Hunt Club at Heythrop; Vale Of Clettr at Erw Lon; Waveney Harriers at Higham.

19: Lanarkshire & Renfrewshire Foxhounds at Bogside; Lincolnshire United Hunts Club at Market Rasen; South Pool Harriers at Ottery St Mary; Suffolk at Ampton; United Services at Larkhill; West Shropshire Draghounds at Weston Park.

26: Berwickshire at Friar's Haugh; Bolventor, Harriers at Lamalla; Essex Farmers & Union at Marks Tey; Harborough Hunts Club at Dingley; Mendip Farmers at Castle Of Comfort; Mid Surrey Farmers Draghounds at Charing; North Herefordshire at Whitwick; Pembrokeshire at Lydstep; Sinnington at Duncombe Park; Windsor Forest Bloodhounds at Tweseldown.

March

5: Bicester with Whaddon Chase at Mollington; Cambridge University Draghounds at Cottenham; Chiddingfold, Leconfield & Cowdray at Parham Storrington; Cotteswore at Garthorpe; Duke Of Beaufort's at Didmarton; East Devon Hunt at Clyst St Mary; South Cornwall Foxhounds at Great Trethew; South Durham at Howe Hills Great Stainton; Tanesside at Eyton-on-Severn; Tradegar Farmers at Magor; Tynedale at Corbridge.

9: Ross Harriers at Garnons.

12: Avon Vale at Barbury Castle; Brecon at Llanfrynach; Brocklesby at Brocklesby Park; Cumberland Farmers Foxhounds at Dalston; Derwent at Charm Park; North Ledbury at Upton-on-Severn; North Norfolk Harriers at Higham; Oakley at Newton Bromswold; Silverton at Haldon; Sir W W Wynn at Eaton Hall; Southdown & Eridge at Heathfield; West Somerset Vale at Kingston St Mary.

19: Cambridgeshire at Horseheath; Carmarthenshire at Lydstep; Cheshire at Alpraham; Cleveland at Witton Castle; Dart Vale & Haldon Harriers at Ottery St Mary; Eglinton at Bogside; New Forest Buckhounds at Larkhill; Quantock at Williton; South Herefordshire at Garnons; South Wold at Market Rasen; Staff College & RMA Draghounds at Tweseldown; West Street Tickham at Detling.

26: Belvoir at Garthorpe; Cheshire Forest at Knutsford; Clifton On Teme at Upper Sapey; Crawley & Horsham at Parham Storrington; Curre at Howick; Duke Of Buccleuch's at Friar's Haugh; Essex Foxhounds at High Easter; Grafton at Mollington; Holderness at Dalton Park; Lamerton at Kilworthy; Tivyside at Pantyderi; Vale Of White Horse at Siddington; Weston & Banwell Harriers at Williton; Wilton at Badbury Rings.

April

2: Ashford Valley at Charing; Cattistock at Little Windsor; East Essex at Marks Tey; Garth & South Berks at Tweseldown; Hurworth Hunt at Howe Hills Great Stainton; Ledbury at Malsemore Park; Monmouthshire at Llanvapley; North Staffordshire at Sandon; Percy at Alnwick; Royal Artillery at Larkhill; Spooners & West Dartmoor at Cherry Brook; Vale Of Aylesbury at Kimble; Vale Of Lune Harriers at Whittington; Woodland Pytchley at Dingley.

4: East Kent at Aldington; Eggesford at Bishopsleigh; Essex Farmers & Union at Marks Tey; Four Burrow Hunt at Wadesbridge; Morpeth at Tranwell; North Cotswold at Springhill; North Shropshire at Eyton-on-Severn; Old Berkshire at Lockinge; South Notts at Thorpe; South Pembrokeshire at Lydstep; Southdown & Eridge at Heathfield; Stainforndale at Charm Park; Talybont at Talybont-on-Usk; Taunton Vale at Kingston St Mary; Vine & Craven at Hackwood Park.

5: Croome & West Warwickshire at Upton-on-Severn; Dumfriesshire at Lockerbie; High Peak at Flagg Moor; Pytchley at Guilsborough.

9: Blackmore & Sparkford Vale at Kingweston; Burton at Market Rasen; Isle Of Wight at Barbury Castle; Llangibby at Howick; Meynell & South Staffordshire at Sandon; Middleton at Whitwell-on-the-Hill; Puckeridge at Horseheath; South Devon at Haldon; United Pack at Brampton Bryan.

12: Heythrop at Heythrop.

16: Axe Vale Harriers at Stafford Cross; Bedale & West Of Yore at Bedale; Braes Of Derwent at Tranwell; Essex & Suffolk at Higham; Glamorgan at St Hilary; Holcombe Harriers at Whittington; Ludlow at Bitterley; Portman at Badbury Rings; Quorn at Garthorpe; West Kent at Penshurst; Western Foxhounds at Wadebridge.

20: Teme Valley at Brampton Bryan; Tiverton Foxhounds at Hockworthy.

23: Bicester with Whaddon Chase at Kingston Blount; Blankney (evening) at Southwell; Bramham Moor at Wetherby; Dartmoor at Ottery St Mary; East Sussex & Romney Marsh at Bexhill; Fife at Balcormo Mains; Fitzwilliam at Cottenham; Flint & Denbigh at Ealon Hall; Pentyrch at Llantwit Major; Seavington at Little Windsor; South & West Wilts at Larkhill; Worcestershire at Chaddesley Corbett.

27: National Point To Point Festival (PPSA) at Garthorpe.

30: Albrighton at Weston Park; Atherstone Foxhounds at Clifton-on-Dunsmore; Berkeley Foxhounds at Woodford; Berks & Bucks Draghounds at Barbury Castle; Lauderdale at Mosshouses; Llangainor at Margam; Old Surrey & Burstow at Penshurst; Pendle Forest & Craven at Gisburn; Tiverton Staghounds at Bratton Down; York & Ainsty at Easingwold.

May

2: Banwen Miners at Resolven; Cotley at Chard; Enfield Chace Foxhounds at Northaw; Hampshire Hunt at Hackwood Park; Radnor & West Hereford at Cursneh Hill; South Shropshire at Eyton-on-Severn; Stevenstone at Stibb Cross; Warwickshire (evening) at Ashorne; West Street Tickham at Aldington; Zetland at Witton Castle.

4: Cotswold (evening) at Andoversford.

7: Bilsdale at Easingwold; Cumberland at Aspatria; Devon & Somerset Staghounds at Holnicote; Gelligaer Farmers at Magor; Grove & Rufford (evening) at Southwell; Modbury Harriers at Flete Park; Surrey Union at Peper Harow; Vale Of Aylesbury (evening) at Kingston Blount; West Norfolk at Fakenham.

11: Cotswold Vale (evening) at Malsemore Park.

14: Border at Corbridge; Cambridge University United Hunts Club at Cottenham; Farmers Draghounds at Heythrop; Fernie at Dingley; Golden Valley at Bredwardine; Llandeilo at Erw Lon; Minehead Harriers & West Somerset at Holnicote; Tedworth at Barbury Castle.

18: Tetcott (evening) at Lifton.

21: College Valley & N Northumberland at Alnwick; Dulverton West at Bratton Down, Harkaway Club at Chaddesley Corbett; Melton Hunt Club at Garthorpe; Ystrad at Llanwonno.

28: Dulverton East at Mounsey Hill Gate

30: Albrighton Woodland at Chaddesley Corbett; South Tetcott at Lifton.

June

4: Exmoor Foxhounds at Bratton Down.

10: Piccadilly Hunt Club (evening) at Hereford.

11: Torrington Farmers at Umberleigh.

Sevilla 2 Espanol 2 (3-2), Real Oviedo 0 | Aberbargy v Pontypool (7.15) ... | Leicester. | 3-3, 3-4, P Hannon (Durham & Cleveland) bt B Thomson (Worcs) 6-8, 8-3, 9-2. | 48p per min at all other times | GOLF SUPPLEMENT WEDNESDAY 19TH JANUARY

Stephenson leads stern challenge


Stephenson: praised

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN BLOEMFONTEIN

AFTER a week of untypically overcast weather, a fierce sun is expected to burn throughout England A's four-day match against Orange Free State, which begins at Springbok Park today. The pitch feels very hard so the ball should go through at a good pace — and evenly — which will be a blessed relief after the poor pitch on which England A were defeated by Northern Transvaal in Pretoria.

England are not trying to disguise their task. The players expect the Free State to test them more rigorously than any other provincial side, even though Hansie Cronje, Allan Donald and Corrie van Zyl are absent. Cronje and Donald shared in South Africa's storming Test win in Sydney; van Zyl, the deputy captain, has a back strain, which may force him into retirement at the end of the season.

Glamorgan followers will remember van Zyl as one of the club's less-inspired overseas signings, but he has punched his weight on native soil. A more impressive English import does play, though. Franklyn Stephenson, the Sussex and former Nottinghamshire all-rounder, had intended to miss this game, but England's victorious passage through South Africa (ten wins in 11 matches) has brought a change of mind.

Seppi Lusardi, the State Cricket Union's managing director, declares Stephenson to be "the best professional cricketer Orange Free State has ever had, including Allan Lamb". The Northamptonshire captain made his highest score, 294, against Eastern Province at Bloemfontein in 1988. Stephenson is credited with bringing greater purpose to the team's cricket.

These are boom times for the State, which celebrated its cricketing centenary last year by winning the Castle Cup, the national championship. The two most important home-grown members of their side were also prominent in the South Africa team which beat Australia and will visit England for a three-Test series this summer.

Cronje, who led them for the first time at the age of 20, will shortly become the national captain and — after leading them in Sydney in the absence of Kepler Wessels — is already a national figure. Donald, the Warwickshire fast bowler, is the country's most visible international performer.

Both men are Afrikaans, as are eight members of the side which faces England. Although English is the language of the dressing-room, for Stephenson's benefit, the State's cricketing future depends to a large extent on fostering the game among the Afrikaans-speaking community that has traditionally favoured rugby.

For personal and work reasons, cricketers prefer to play on the coast, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London or even — hard to imagine — humid, horrible Durban. Cronje was offered an all-in package worth about R250,000 (£50,000) to stay on. It is a big deal in an amateur sport, but not a vast salary by Botham, Gower or Wasim Akram standards.

One has to admire the efforts South African administrators have made to sharpen standards of play and appreciation: "My door is always open" is Lusardi's credo, which compares winningly with the Test and County Cricket Board's drawbridge-and-moat policy.

Mark Lathwell could do himself a lot of good to follow this open approach. Instead, he mopes in the team hotel, poring over a sequence of failure that threatens his selection for the five-day game at the end of the month. There are times in a cricketer's career when a boot up the backside is worth more than a dictionary of soothing words. It is time Messrs Bennett and Neale started kicking.

West Indies attack may lack former aggression



On the eve of England leaving for the Caribbean, **John Woodcock** finds some grounds for optimism

AFTER covering Pakistan's tour of the Caribbean last year, on which they played three Tests and five one-day internationals, as well as first-class matches against Jamaica, a President's XI and an Under-23 XI, I left with the clear impression that West Indian cricket lacks quite the depth and strength that it had through the Eighties. England must be just as careful, therefore, not to overrate their opponents as not to underrate them.

When Clive Lloyd had Vivian Richards, Gordon Greenidge and a young Desmond Haynes to bat for him and Michael Holding, Andy Roberts, Malcolm Marshall, Joel Garner and Colin Croft to put the wind up the opposition, apprehension was inevitable among sides packing their bags for the West Indies. That need not be so to the same extent today. Richie Richardson's attack leans heavily on the mighty Curtly Ambrose and the present regulations preclude them from bowling as indiscriminately short as was the custom under Lloyd.

Pakistan drew their one-day series and lost the first two Test matches, the third of those being ruined by rain. Getting them to play as a team has always been a problem and Wasim Akram, who was new to the captaincy, found that, in trying to do so, his own game went to pieces. His nine Test wickets cost him 39 runs apiece and he averaged only eight with the bat.

Pakistan's winter programme had been so demanding, with visits to Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Sharjah, that, even before they reached the West Indies, they were all but played out. In no time at all, some of them were looking for reasons for going home, and finding them. As they leave tomorrow for their three-month tour of the Caribbean, England will be altogether fresher and more eager. Although they missed what seemed an excellent chance of getting their game together by spurning the Hero Cup in India in November, it is better to have had too little recent cricket than too much. It sounds at the moment as though Richardson would subscribe to that, after being ordered to rest for a month with what might loosely be called willow fatigue.

At some stage of the tour, England will almost certainly come across a pitch, perhaps two or three of them, to accommodate their bowlers. Strange though it may seem, they are more likely to do so in the Caribbean than they would be in a Test series in England. For instance, I have never seen a much seedier pitch for a Test match than the one at Port of Spain on which West Indies beat Pakistan last April.

With the ball keeping very low and moving all over the place, 17 wickets fell on the first day for 240 runs and another 17 on the third and last day for 214 runs. The second day showed what befalls an attack that first bowls short in the West Indies, then loses heart. In 76 overs, West Indies scored 333 for three, a brilliant piece of opportunism, presided over by Haynes and prosecuted by Phil Simmons, Richardson and Lara.

There looks to be a better chance that under Michael Atherton, rather than Graham Gooch, more attention will be paid to selective practice than to surplus training. To have sent someone on ahead to Antigua, where the team will be spending the first week of the tour, to see what is being prepared in the way of practise facilities, would have been time and money well spent. For this purpose, England sides, whether to the Caribbean, Australia or anywhere else, would always be well advised to dispatch a scout to the next port of call; but they never do and practice arrangements, despite their importance, are seldom satisfactory.

Nothing can take the place of a good constructive practise sessions. Besides being beneficial technically, they create a genuine sense of fulfilment. The light, the bounce of the ball and its speed through the air, the glare, the precise length required of the bowlers, the need for batsmen to get on to the front foot or the back — they all vary from country to country and from centre to centre. To illustrate that, here is a story from a tour of Australia some years ago.

Mike Hendrick, a bowler of medium pace and high ability, was having a problem, though, as Alec Bedser knew, the solution was straightforward enough. Together, they went to the nets, where Bedser placed a page from the *Melbourne Age*, a broadsheet, on the length at which Hendrick should be aiming, which was fuller by four or five feet than came naturally to him. Being in the wrong groove, Hendrick took a long time to hit the target, but the hour he spent locating it was better than a thousand press-ups.

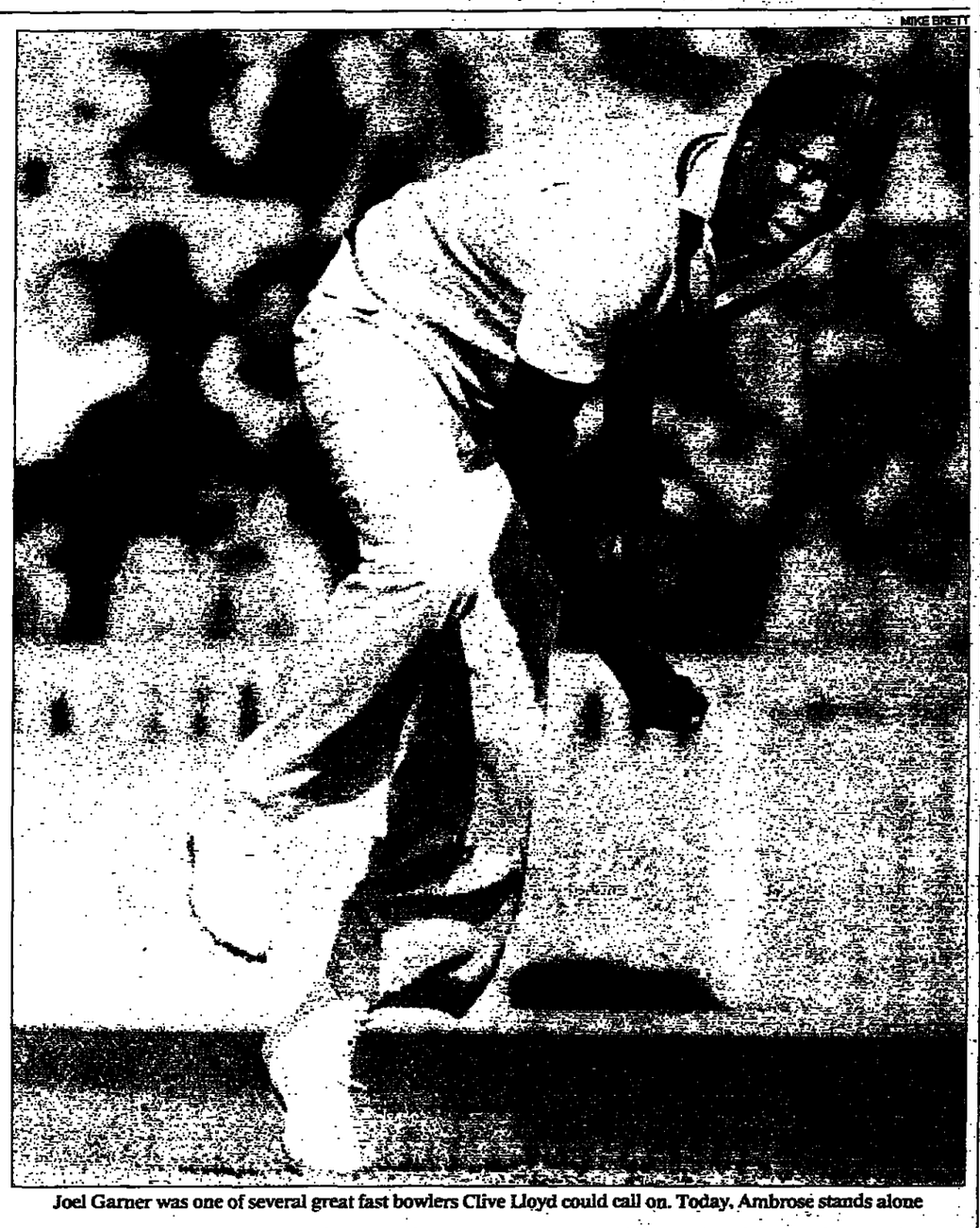
Even at the highest level, success can come simply from doing the most fundamental cricketing things efficiently, while keeping an eye open for the main chance. This being so, Keith Fletcher, as the England team coach, will be a key figure. In a similar capacity, his native caution has not always been an advantage, but Atherton has toured with him enough to know that and it should be a help to all concerned to have, in M J K Smith, a manager who has been a cricketer of distinction. Sides usually enjoy a rather easier passage when the manager is something of a celebrity.

So, off England go on an unquestionably testing but by no means hopeless expedition. Unlike the Pakistanis, they can be relied upon to pull together and to keep out of mischief, I hope, on the beaches of Grenada.

Allegations by the Grenadan police, subsequently withdrawn, that Pakistan's captain and vice-captain and two other players had been in "constructive possession" of marijuana was the very last thing they needed on the eve of the first Test match.

Young as he is to be taking an England side on a major tour, Atherton possesses the intellect, determination and self-confidence to make a job of it — and he is a pretty good player. It is a worry, obviously, that in his only major encounter with West Indies — the Test series in England in 1991 — he fared badly (79 runs in nine completed innings). I am just a shade concerned, too, lest he should think, in view of their successes against England, that the bovine way in which Allan Border's Australians sledge their opponents may have something to be said for it. Cricketers worthy of the name don't need to be told that that is not the best way forward and Atherton's instincts, together with Richardson's, should ensure a reasonably jolly and generally chivalrous series.

MIKE BRETT


Joel Garner was one of several great fast bowlers Clive Lloyd could call on. Today, Ambrose stands alone

Selectors cut short Tamati's tenure

HOWIE Tamati, who was criticised for dropping his captain, Gary Freeman, before the final rugby league international with Great Britain last year, has been dismissed as coach of New Zealand's national team. Tamati was two-thirds of the way through a three-year contract, which was due to expire at the end of the 1994 season following series against France and Papua New Guinea.

The New Zealand rugby league board, which met for five hours yesterday, said a new coach would be named within a month. "Our objective is to build a platform which will carry us forward to the World Cup in 1995," the board chairman, Trevor Maxwell, said.

Tim Lumb, 23, the Sheffield Eagles half back, could play against Bradford Northern, the championship leaders, at the Don Valley stadium on Sunday only three weeks after having a cartilage operation.

Sampras advances

TENNIS: Pete Sampras, the world No 1, staved off another mid-match collapse to reach the semi-finals of the New South Wales Open in Sydney with a 6-1, 6-3 victory over his fellow American, Aaron Krickstein, yesterday. Sampras was leading 6-1, 2-0 when he lost two successive games, but recovered to win in 55 minutes and set up a meeting with the No 5 seed, Petr Korda, of the Czech Republic. Korda had beaten another Czech, Daniel Vacek, 6-3, 6-2. Ivan Lendl displayed some of his old serving power to defeat Richey Reneberg, of the United States, 7-6, 4-6, 6-3.

Nunn awaits Benn

BOXING: Nigel Benn may meet Michael Nunn, of the United States, in a middleweight world title contest later this year, according to his promoter, Frank Warren. As Benn yesterday prepared to fly to Tenerife to complete his preparations for his World Boxing Council championship bout with Henry Wharton, from York, at Earl's Court on February 26, Warren said: "It depends on Benn beating Wharton, but we are close to signing the fight." Nunn, the World Boxing Association champion, will defend his title against Steve Little on same bill as the Benn v Wharton bout.

Freedom for Graham

FOOTBALL: George Graham, the Arsenal manager, is to be given the freedom of Islington in recognition of the club's success while he has been in charge at Highbury. Arsenal have won five trophies during Graham's 7½ years as manager. The council honoured the team, in which Graham played, which completed the league and FA Cup double in 1971, but has made the award only five times in 27 years. Derek Sawyer, the leader of the council, said: "It seems fitting now that we should give the same honour to George Graham in recognition of his personal contribution."

Jordan makes his pitch

BASEBALL: Michael Jordan, who led the Chicago Bulls to three successive National Basketball Association championships, wants to play major league baseball. He will attempt to earn a place with the Chicago White Sox when training begins next month, he told the *Chicago Tribune*. "I want to go to spring training for one reason and that's to make the team," he said. Jordan, 30, who retired in October after a basketball career that made him one of the richest sportsmen in the world, has not played organised baseball since he was a teenager.

Pakistan board ousted

CRICKET: Farooq Ahmed Leghari, the president of Pakistan, has dismissed the management of the Board for Control of Cricket in Pakistan (BCCP) and set up a three-man committee in its place. Javed Burki, the former Test player, has been appointed chairman, with Zafar Altaf and Arif Ali Abbasi the other members of the committee. Officials said that the "deterioration" in the management of cricket had disturbed the game's followers in the country. No instances of alleged mismanagement have been made public, but Leghari has promised to reveal "many startling facts".

Britain captures gold

YACHTING: The British team captured the first gold medal at the International Blind Sailing Regatta in Fremantle, Western Australia, yesterday. Competing in the B3 class, Richard Horton-Fawkes, from Lymington, secured two firsts and a second place in the final heats to claim the gold medal. New Zealand narrowly beat Western Australia for the silver medal in a series dominated by strong winds. The British team is also well-placed for medals in the B2 and B1 classes, where they faced strong competition from New Zealand and Sweden.

Petchey and Foster win

TENNIS: Mark Petchey and Andrew Foster, of Britain, won first-round matches at the Australian Open qualifying tournament in Melbourne yesterday. Petchey, the No 1 seed, defeated the wild card, Jay Salter, of Australia, 6-2, 4-6, 6-0 and Foster beat Mark Draper, also an Australian wild card, 6-3, 6-2. However, Neil Broad, of Britain, fell 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 to Don Johnson, of the United States.

☐ A stomach virus has knocked seven players out of the second round of the Indonesian Open, including Carl-Uwe Steeb, of Germany, and Lars Jonsson, of Sweden.

Slick sticks and slow service at Paddington Rec


FREUD ON FRIDAY

The man was in his late Sixties, smartly dressed for a wet winter afternoon. "There are," he said to me, "hundreds of thousands of people who go to watch soccer every week."

I nodded agreement.

"And tens of thousands who turn out for rugby football."

Yes, I said.

"And this most skilful and arresting of games ... how many spectators attend high-class hockey matches?"

Around the No 1 pitch at the Paddington Recreation Ground stood both teams' trainers, three hacks, two London University substitutes, the elder brother of the Oxford University left back and himself.

"Not a lot," I agreed, "but good quality." He was pleased with that. Rarely does one get the opportunity of gratifying an entire non-partisan audience.

At the entrance of the Paddington Rec is a notice informing readers that the city council is considering new proposals relating to a number of dog-related problems. As one would expect from a Tory-dominated authority, these come under the general heading of "Back to Basics". Westminster CC would like to hear how we feel about dog mess; do we have any suggestions?

As the deadline for responses was last Monday, I let it be, follow a member of the militant wing of the Women's Institute pushing her bicycle, observe a diligent gardener dressing a flower bed with fertiliser, notice that the grass tennis courts are sodden, the hard courts flooded, cricket square under water. For the record, the disabled toilet was locked.

The pavilion was open. A genuine Department of Works grade III building with mock-Tudor gabling and double entrance doors, the one labelled "pull" being bolted. I waited at the counter. A woman with her back to me waited at a sink.

We stayed that way for a few minutes, then she turned and asked whether I was waiting to be served. Tea was good and hot and 40p. On a table was a sign stating "Please Return Before Leaving". I worried about that manifestation of optimism. "No-one has ever been back," would have been more appropriate.

Three tables were occupied by schoolchildren, either on their lunch break or being truant, or both. Only two out of a couple of dozen smoked. I went to the phone box and exercised a "Put" option in British American Tobacco shares.

The Paddington Rec's two hockey pitches are on the far side of the pavilion. The Astroturf looks like a flooded bathroom carpet, but the ball planes along it and the soft ground affords good footholds for the players; by common consent, this is excellent hockey weather.

Last spring, Oxford University voted hockey the sport of the year and the team plays in the Pizza Express National League with an outside chance of winning promotion to the first division.

They are fast and skilful, prolific goalscorers and — according to their coach — genuine Corinthians. Six of the team are in line for first-class honours degrees.

Success, explains the coach, Gavin Featherstone, brings success. Previously when good hockey players went up to Oxford, they shunned the university team and continued to play for their prestigious clubs. No more ... with the exception of John Wyatt, reading chemistry at Corpus, an England under-21 international who is playing today.

The team's troubles are injuries — not just those occasioned on the field of play. The centre forward lost half a finger in an argument with a kitchen knife; a winger came off his bike headlong into a brick wall; also, the South African centre half is playing for his country in Cape Town next week.

The players arrive, Oxford carrying dark blue bags inscribed "Nastro Azzurro", not actually a name that trips off the tongue, but apparently the brand of beer served at Pizza Express restaurants.

After ironing out the minor wrinkle of two dark-blue players wearing No 11 shirts, the game begins. Oxford excel. In the first half, they score four goals and hit the post three times — "I call this poor aim by them rather than good luck for us," one of the London University substitutes says.

The referees seem to me to be outstanding (why can't there be two referees in football?). And now that there are no longer so many stoppages for obstruction, hockey is hugely entertaining to watch.

I had rather expected to see the players nibbling slices of Pizza Napolitana in the interval — but no refreshments are provided. Both teams huddle in their goals, both coaches join them to talk tactics.

Back in the pavilion, I ring my broker to buy shares in Pizza Express. One of the coach drivers is eating a hamburger: plastic box, sachet of tomato sauce. Bun, meat, lettuce, all for 70p.

The woman behind the counter still appears keener on the sink than the customers but eventually approaches.

"I have returned before leaving."

She asks what I mean. I point to the notice.

She says: "That's for the newspapers; put them back before you go. Anything else?"

I have another tea, still good and hot, still 40p.

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
ANDORRA							
Soldeu	95	145	good	crust	art	fine -2	11/1
(Hard-packed conditions throughout resort)							
AUSTRIA							
Kuzbühel	20	80	good	varied	worn	cloud 5	5/1
(Upper slopes remain particularly good)							
Mayrhofen	9	55	fair	varied	closed	cloud 7	2/1
(Plenty of good skiing available above 1,800 metres)							
Obergurgl	70	120	good	good	good	fine -1	11/1
(Super sunny skiing on all pistes)							
Söll	20	60	fair	spring	worn	cloud 7	4/1
(Bare patches developing on south-facing slopes)							
FRANCE							
Alpe d'Huez	140	220	good	varied	good	fine -1	11/1
(Good skiing on well-maintained pistes)							
Avoriaz	135	175	good	varied	good	cloud -1	11/1
(Lower slopes slightly slushy after overnight snow)							
Chamonix	80	230	good	heavy	good	cloud 1	11/1
(Excellent piste conditions persist)							
Isola	190	290	good	heavy	good	fine 3	11/1
(Blissful skiing throughout resort)							
La Plagne	160	325	good	varied	good	fine 2	11/1
(Excellent piste skiing in all but a few places)							
SWITZERLAND							
Arosa	75	85	good	powder	good	fine 2	11/1
(Excellent skiing in all areas)							
C Montana	50	160	good	varied	good	sun 2	11/1
(Excellent skiing with powder on a hard base)							
Grindelwald	5	60	worn	heavy	closed	foha 5	11/1
(All pistes becoming badly worn)							
Gstaad	20	60	good	varied	fair	cloud 6	5/1
(Warm temperatures causing heavy conditions)							
Verbier	35	320	good	heavy	fair	fair 8	11/1
(Lower slopes in danger of becoming worn)							
Wengen	10	30	good	heavy	slush	fair 6	11/1
(Some good skiing on upper slopes)							
Zermatt	100	250	good	powder	good	fine -3	11/1
(Excellent skiing in perfect sunny conditions)							

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L = lower slopes; U = upper; art = artificial

Townsend has first success in his sights

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN MADEIRA

JAY Townsend, 31, of the United States, who plays the European tour from his home base in Florida, is chasing his first victory on his adopted circuit after starting the season with a round of 67, five under par, in the Madeira Island Open yesterday.

Townsend, who is in his sixth season on the tour, thus became the year's first leader in the clubhouse. Low cloud delayed the start of play by an hour and 22 minutes and the players left stranded on the course as the light faded included Danny Mijovic, of Canada, who was five under par with six to play, and Howard Clark, of England, who was four under with four to play. Another Englishman, Roger Chapman, finished four under, scoring 68.

The personable Chapman has begun this season as he has the last 12, seeking a victory. He has been second five times, but has so far failed to do the right thing at the right time. This year, however, he feels he has been given a new lease of life — literally — and, despite his veteran's status, woke up yesterday feeling excited and nervous.

At the end of November, Chapman, 34, was doing a bit of tree-climbing with Christopher, his son, aged six. The young Chapman descended safely, but his father came down rather more quickly than intended. Flat on his back, unable to move, apart from his fingers and toes, Chapman's assessment of the situation took a dramatic turn for the worse when Christopher, sobbing his eyes out, said: "I don't want to see you in a wheelchair, daddy."

"I thought this was bad news," Chapman said and his career flashed before his eyes. He had plenty of time to think as he lay motionless and freezing for over an hour while his wife, Cathy, alerted the ambulance and the paramedics. "I had X-rays in the hospital," Chapman said. "They said there was nothing broken and that I could go, but I couldn't move."

However, he was able to play in a pro-am in Dubai a couple of weeks later — and he won. "Nice windfall," a friend said and it adjusted the attitude nicely too.

Chapman has been virtually snowbound since Dubai — he managed three hours of practise last Sunday before flying to Madeira — but he dropped only one shot yesterday, when he three-putted the 3rd from 15 feet. He had five birdies, including three in a row from the 8th.

Townsend had his marksman's eye in from the start. He holed from 30 feet at the 1st and ten feet at the 2nd for birdies and had eight in all on greens universally described as "tricky" — pro-speak for "impossible".

Townsend was 58th in the Volvo Order of Merit last season and earned just over £90,000, £50,000 of which went on travelling expenses. "I enjoy being at home," he said, "and the hobbies I have. I'm not able to enjoy them in Europe."

That is because of the difficulty of travelling with a sniper's rifle — "my favourite toy" — an AK-47 and an automatic-loading shotgun.

Townsend took up guns a few years ago because he was playing too much golf. He is a member of the National Rifle Association and spends as much time as possible hunting.

"I really love animals," Townsend said and talked about the great outdoors, game management and long prison sentences for gun offenders. It suddenly seemed safer to stick to golf.

FIRST ROUND SCORES (GB and Ireland unless stated): 67: J Townsend (US). 68: R Chapman. 69: P Eales, M Gronberg (Swe), R Alvarez (Arg), P Hedblom (Swe), D Borrego (Sp), N Sodin. 70: S Van Vuuren (SA), P Mayo, P Broadhurst, M Lanner (Swe), M Pitz (Fin), T Price (Aus), S Struver (Ger), J Hall, R Lee. 71: S Bottomley, O Nordberg (Swe), J M-Canillas (Sp), D Curry, G J Brand, R Berhorst (Ger), G Flensted (Swe), S Richardson. 72: H P Taule (Ger), G Manson, F Larsson (Swe), S Watson, S McAllister, L Westwood, A Forsbrand (Swe), A Sorensen (Den), C Brooks, A Cejka (Ger), A Laboue (Fr), P Price, A Sherborne.



Graham Bell, who was sixth in practice on the Hahnenkamm yesterday, will be in confident mood for the World Cup race tomorrow

Bell brothers master Hahnenkamm

FROM GRAHAM DUFFILL IN KITZBÜHEL, AUSTRIA

GRAHAM and Martin Bell, Britain's paupers among princes on the World Cup skiing circuit, finished sixth and seventh respectively on the second of three practice legs on the feared Hahnenkamm mountain here yesterday. Reaching speeds of up to 85mph on the Streiff piste, the most daunting downhill course in the world, they were just over a second behind the leader, Daniel Mahrer, of Switzerland, who recorded 1min 59.65sec.

The brothers have shown significant improvement this season and yesterday's performances, albeit in practice, will have increased their confidence. Even Franz Heinzer, the World Cup champion, from Switzerland, found the Hahnenkamm too tough. He crashed in the first training run on Wednesday — the final leg is today — sustained facial cuts and may miss the race on Saturday.

Martin, 28, from Mortlake, London, has earned points with three top-30 finishes this season. He was 21st in Val Gardena, Italy, 22nd in Saalbach, Austria, and 26th in Bormio, Italy. Graham, 27, from Henley, Oxfordshire, has raced consistently within half a second of Martin, with placings of 35th in Val Gardena and 38th in Bormio. Both are ranked among the top 60 downhillers in the world; Martin is ranked 35th.

"Things seem to be improving for both of us this year," Martin, who finished eighth in the 1988 Winter Olympic Games in Calgary, said. "I hope things go as well on Saturday. I thought I could ski fairly well here as Bormio was similar to the Hahnenkamm, with some steep, icy patches and bumps."

Graham, whose best finish was tenth in Leukerbad, Switzerland, five years ago, said: "Training runs are a fairly good indication of performance because it is the sort of course you have to ski 100 per cent."

The Bells, who had Patrick Ortlieb, the Olympic downhill champion, from Austria, behind them in eighth place, have achieved their results at a time when their back-up from the British Ski Federation (BSF) and Sports Council is at an absolute minimum. Although the BSF meets the costs of their trainer, Hans Anewanter, an Austrian, and they have personal sponsorship from British tour operators — Martin with Bladon Lines, Graham with Nielsons — they have had to find around £6,000 each for the second year running.

In Kitzbühel this week, as the Tyrolean resort winds up to the fifth and most dramatic race of the season, the support staff of the leading teams have dominated the town. Each of the teams has technicians preparing skis, physiotherapists, video men to film training runs for analysis and even public relations consultants. The British team comprises two racers and a trainer.

As the pair waxed and sharpened their new Volkl skis, to which they largely attribute their recent form, they were sanguine about their working conditions: "We get a lot of advice from Volkl, but we really notice the lack of a ski technician when we arrive in a resort late at night and have to race the next day," Martin said. "The other skiers can relax and go to bed, but we spend a couple of hours preparing our skis."

The Austrian team spends £2 million a year on its downhill racers, but there is a lot of goodwill towards the British. St Anton, the main ski resort in Austria, provides free accommodation and training facilities for them. The teams will also help each other, up to a point.

"You can occasionally ask for favours from the other teams, but there is a store of favours that you can use up if you ask for too much," Martin said. "The main favour we ask for is to train with the other teams. At the moment, we are co-operating quite well with the Liechtenstein team, who have a video. We record each other on training runs.

"It's something of a joke that if there is a free meal going, the British team will be there, but it's not far from the truth."

Wednesday wary of taking on United in semi-final

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TREVOR Francis fears Manchester United are the biggest threat to his dream of taking Sheffield Wednesday back to Wembley in the Coca-Cola Cup. Francis, the Wednesday manager, is hoping to erase the memory of their defeats by Arsenal in the Coca-Cola and FA Cup finals last season by returning to Wembley on March 27 as a winner.

However, the semi-final draw yesterday handed his team the daunting prospect of a two-leg tie with the runaway FA Carling Premiership leaders. Though United must still survive a quarter-final replay at Fratton Park on January 26, after being held to a 2-2 draw by Portsmouth, of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division, at Old Trafford last night, Francis admitted: "If we are honest, we don't want to play United next. They are the outstanding team and anyone would want to avoid them if they could."

Aston Villa, who will set a new League Cup record with their ninth semi-final appearance, face the winners of the all-first division meeting between Nottingham Forest and Tranmere Rovers, which was postponed because of a flooded City Ground pitch.

After ending the challenge of Tottenham Hotspur 2-1 at White Hart Lane, Villa's players are convinced they are on the verge of a first trophy under Ron Atkinson, their manager. Ray Houghton, the Ireland midfield player, who scored the first goal against Tottenham, said: "We have got to fancy our chances of going all the way. At this stage, it doesn't really matter who you draw because it is sure to be tough. Over two legs, though, we don't fear anybody."

Dave Bassett, the Sheffield United manager, has withdrawn his threat to ask the Football Association to lay charges against Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, and Mark Hughes, his striker. Bassett was angry by comments alleging that Hughes was not given sufficient protection by the referee in their FA Cup third-round match at Bramall Lane last Sunday, which Manchester United won 1-0. Hughes scored the goal but was later sent off.

Bassett considered the remarks a verbal attack on his players and said he would consider asking the FA to initiate charges of bringing the game into disrepute, but he said yesterday: "Although I felt I had to stand up for my players and club, the subject has now had a good airing and it is time to close it without making it official."

DRAW

Manchester United or Portsmouth v Sheffield Wednesday

Nottingham Forest or Tranmere v Aston Villa

First legs to be played on February 13 and 16
Second legs to be played on February 23 and 27

Harris recalls former potential

BY COLIN MCQUILLAN

EXTRAORDINARY as it may seem to speak of the resurgence of a player defeated in the first round of the SRA national squash championships at Herts Country Club in Welwyn Garden City, there were serious intimations yesterday that Del Harris, the British champion of 1987 and 1989, may be on the way back to the sort of form that once made him the brightest prospect in the game.

Harris, now 24 and built rather more in the mould of an old-fashioned centre forward than a fast and flexible squash player, combined with Simon Parke, of Yorkshire, the fourth seed, to produce a first-round match of a quality rarely seen at such an early stage of a national championship. Seldom can a still-active former champion have been so cruelly served by the draw.

Harris, now ranked only No 13 in England after a number of poor seasons, managed to extend Parke to 5-6 in the third game and 6-6 in the fourth in a 68-minute encounter that would not have disgraced the final.

Parke won 8-10, 9-2, 9-6, 9-6 and would almost certainly have benefited from the deteriorating condition of Harris had the Colchester player managed to advance into a fifth game. Harris still covers the court with alarming speed and agility and, on match-ball, he contrived a breather of several minutes by launching himself into the top right corner with such commitment that he left a track of perspiration, two feet wide and six feet long, which required extended towelling before play could resume long enough for him to play a backhand into the tin.

Parke, 21, who succeeded Harris as world junior champion in 1990, has also had his problems adjusting to senior status, but the long summer of hard training he invested in earning an England place for last November's world championships saw him home.

In today's second round, Parke plays Tim Garner, a qualifier from Sussex, who put out another former champion, Paul Carter, of Hertfordshire, 10-8, 9-5, 9-6, in 54 minutes. However, the young Yorkshireman could be excused for thinking that his toughest encounter before the semi-final on Sunday, in which he is scheduled to meet Peter Marshall, the top seed, could well be behind him.

A former women's champions fared rather better. Lisa Opie resisted the challenge of Tegwen Malik, the young Welsh player who unexpectedly reached the final of the British under-19 Open earlier this month, winning 9-3, 9-4, 9-0 in 24 minutes.

IOC hails breakthroughs

BY DAVID MILLER

THE International Olympic Committee yesterday announced important breakthroughs in drug testing and the control of sporting litigation. Both can have an important bearing on the centenary Olympic Games in Atlanta in 1996.

At a meeting of representatives of the IOC executive board, of 34 Olympic federations of the Association of National Olympic Committees and the Athletes Commission, 28 federations accepted the unification of testing procedures and penalties set out last June. The last of these procedures is that any sport not agreeing jeopardises its inclusion on the Olympic programme. Those sports which failed to sign yesterday included football, cycling, judo, badminton and tennis, though all promise to come to internal agreement that enables them to accept.

Cycling is having difficulty achieving agreement on the required minimum two-year ban for a first offence. Yet no sport is likely to risk exclusion from the Games for failure to join one of the most commonsense initiatives in sport.

Judge Keba M'Baye announced unanimous approval for the principles of constituting the International Council of Arbitration for Sport, though further work is required on the code of practice for an institution that, it is hoped, will be able to resolve, without recourse to civil law, disputes such as those involving Katrin Krabbe, of Germany, and Butch Reynolds, of the United States.

Carrard said after the meeting that the IOC will be require all competitors participating at Atlanta to agree under contract to recourse to the Council of Arbitration in the event of dispute.

Towards reality, page 38

FOR THE RECORD

BADMINTON

STRANRAER: Triangular International: Scotland 5 Wales 2 (Scotland names first): Men's singles: D Gilmour bt J Lunga 15-1, 15-12; J Miller bt G Lewis 15-5, 15-2. Men's doubles: K Middlemiss and R Hogg bt C Rees and D Tonks 15-3, 15-1; A Gall and G Haldane bt P Hybart and M Hall 15-5, 15-8. Women's singles: J Allen lost to K Morgan 5-11, 7-11. Women's doubles: J Allen and E Allen lost to K Morgan and R Phipps 15-11, 4-15, 15-18. Mixed doubles: G Haldane and J Haldane bt C Rees and H Tonkin 14-17, 15-8, 15-11).

BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group A: KV Mechelen (Bel) 91 (Stas 18, Vamar 17, Snijders 13) Guildford Kings 65 (Cummings 25, Pollit 15, Byrd 14). Group B: Benfica (Por) 88 Panathinaikos (Gr) 78; Joventut Badalona (Sp) 102 Caritz (It) 61.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Atlanta 92 Chicago 81; Boston 84 Houston 94; Indiana 107 Denver 96; Orlando 109 Cleveland 116; Philadelphia 117 LA Clippers 98; Dallas 85 Minnesota 103; Golden State 100 Miami 92.

NORDIC SKIING

RUHPOLDING, Germany: Biathlon: Men's World Cup (20km): 1, P Bailly-Salins (Fr) 46min 33.0sec; 2, V Maigurov (Belo) 47:10.5; 3, A Zingerle (It) 48:30.3; 4, H Flandin (Fr) 48:33.7; 5, S Fischer (Ger) 48:38.6; 6, V Saschurin (Belo) 48:20.8. Standings (after five events): 1, Bailly-Salins, 99pts; 2, R Gross (Ger) 89; 3, Fischer 84; 4, S Tarasov (Russ) 76; 5, V Kirienko (Russ) 75; 6, Maigurov 73.

BOBSLEIGH

LA PLAGNE: British championships: Two man: 1, M Tout and L Paul 2min 02.89sec (1:01.30 and 1:01.59); 2, S Olsson and P Field 2:03.15 (1:01.36 and 1:01.79); 3, R Pope and E Selwaior 2:04.36 (1:02.03 and 1:02.33); 4, M Lloyd and S Timson 2:04.98 (1:02.36 and 1:02.36).

BOWLS

SWANSEA: Welsh Indoor Bowling Association national championships: Fours: quarter-finals: P Rowlands bt C Lewis 25-10; W Hier bt B Relland 20-19; J Hunt bt E Oliver 18-15; J Price bt G Williams 20-12.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Brisbane: Queensland 347 (M Heyden 129, J Maher 70, M Love 50; M Hughes 5 for 70); Victoria 9 for 1.

FOOTBALL

Late results on Wednesday

COCA-COLA CUP. Fifth round: Manchester United 2 Portsmouth 2; Tottenham Hotspur 1 Aston Villa 2. Postponed: Nottingham Forest v Tranmere Rovers.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Leicester 4 West Brom 2; Southend 0 Bolton 2; Postponed: Derby v Watford; Stoke v Peterborough.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Heart of Midlothian 1; Hibernian 1; Raith Rovers 0 Partick Thistle 1. Postponed: St Johnstone v Dundee United.

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: First round replay: Postponed: Huntly v Albion.

EUROPEAN SUPER CUP: Final: First leg: Parma 0 AC Milan 1.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Newcastle 0, York 1. Postponed: Nottingham Forest v Everton. Second division: Blackpool 1 Preston 2; Hull 1 Tranmere 4; Rotherham 4 Mansfield 1.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Arsenal 1 Millwall 2; Wimbledon 0 Norwich 0. Postponed: Portsmouth v Chelsea.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Molesey 0 Carshalton 1.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Winsford 4 Knowsley 3.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Chadderton 2 Rossendale 3.

CAWOODS COUNTY ANTRIM SHIELD: Semi-final: Cruesdein 3 Bangor 2 (aet).

AUTOGLASS TROPHY: Area Semi-final dinner: Northern section: Stockport County v Huddersfield Town; Carlisle United v Lincoln City. Southern section: Fulham v Wycombe Wanderers; Leyton Orient v Swansea City. Ties due to be played during week starting February 7.

SPANISH CUP: Third round, second leg: Barcelona 1 Sporting Gijon 1 (agg 4-1); Sevilla 2 Espanol 2 (3-2); Real Oviedo 0 Deportivo La Coruña 1 (3-2); Celta Vigo 1 Logrones 0 (1-1, aet; Celta won 4-3 on pens); Valencia 3 Tenerife 2 (4-5); Real Zaragoza 3 Badajoz 0 (3-1); Lleida 1 Real Betis 1 (2-4)

ENGLISH SCHOOLS ADIDAS UNDER-19 TROPHY: Norfolk 2 Essex 0.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS MARS UNDER-19 TROPHY: Longland College 6 Stokesley College 2.

GOLF

JOHANNESBURG: South African PGA championship: Leading first-round scores (South Africa unless stated): 64: D Frost, A Roestoff. 65: A Johnstone (Zim), W Westner. 66: R Fletcher, R Grosson, G McMillan (US), N Price (Zim) 67: C Kamps, R Kaplan, B Liddle, R Verwey Jr, R Wessels, C Williams. 68: E Els, T Ashcraft (US). H Baiocchi, M Christie (US), S Daniels, S Dunlap (US), B Fouchee, T Ieanhow (US), A Michell, A Pitts (USA), N Van Rensburg.

BANGKOK: Thailand Open: 70: C Hjalmarson (Swe), K Lasken (US), L Davies (GB), LJ Wan-Tai (Taiwan). 71: W Dooley (Aus), P Meunier (Fr), S Shepcott (GB), S Prosser (GB). Other British: 72: L Fairclough.

HOCKEY

AMRITSAR: Indira Gandhi Gold Cup women's tournament: India 3 Kazakhstan 0; South Korea 4 Italy 0.

BEDFORD: Indoor four match: St Albans 24 Trojans (Aus) 1.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Tampa Bay 4 Detroit 2; Montreal 3 New Jersey 2; Winnipeg 3 Buffalo 2; San Jose 5 Anaheim 2; Los Angeles 6 Hartford 4; Vancouver 4 Quebec 3.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION: First division: Bracknell 6 Basingstoke 6; Sheffield 8 Peterborough 2.

MOTOR RALLYING

FOUN HASSAN: Paris-Dakar Rally (special stage from Tan Tan, 331km). Cars: 1, P Lartigue (Fr) Citroën 3hr 47min 01sec; 2, H Auriol (Fr) Citroën; 3t 2min 07sec; 3, A Riviere (Fr) Bourgoin 11:18; 4, M Tragiio (It) Nissan 13:28; 5, J Bravoline (Fr) BCBG 24:27. Overall: 1, Lartigue 41hr 05:08; 2, Auriol at 1hr 9.41 behind; 3, P Wambergue (Fr) Buggy 12:10:21; 4, H Masuoka (Japan) Mitsubish 14:08:33; 5, F Germaneau (It) Nissan 16.46.38. Motorcycles: 1, E Orioli (It) Cagiva 3hr 22.56; 2, J Arcarons (Sp) Cagiva at 41sec; 3, A Cavandoli (It) KTM 27:12. 4, G Maletti (It) Kawasaki 28:15; 5, Michel Antony (Fr) Cagiva 30:00. Overall: 1, Orioli 46hr 40:25; 2, Arcarons at 4.21sec. 3, F Meoni (It) Honda 4:57:44; 4, Cavandoli 5:16:25; 5, P Streyfol (Fr) Cagiva 7: 39:09

RIFLE SHOOTING

PERTH: Western Australia rifle championships: Grand aggregate: 1, P Kent (GB) 344.38. 2, J Pugsley (GB) 343.26, 3, G Hunter (Aus) 342.19. 300 yards: 1, J Messer (GB) 15 8. 900 yards: 1, C Cheshire (GB) 50.3.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Salford 34 St Helens 2; Castleford 34 Oldham 16; Widnes 8 Bradford 28

SKIING

KITZBÜHL, Austria: Men's World Cup downhill practice (3,200m Streif course): 1, D Mahrer (Switz) 1min 59.65sec; 2, H Hoefelmer (Austria) 2:00.06; 3, A Skaardal (Nor) 2:00.18; 4, L Dotturi (It) 2:00.31; 5, M Girardelli (Lux) 2:00.58; 6, G Bell (GB) 2:00 69; 7, M Bell (GB) 2:00.75. 8, P Ortlieb (Austria) 2:00.98, 9, A Assinger (Austria) 2:01 05; 10, R Socher (Can) 2:01.06

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy: Women's World Cup downhill practice (2,600m): 1, K Seizinger (Ger) 1min 26.31sec; 2, P Streit (US) 1:26 77. 3, R Cavegnoud (Fr) 1.26.88; 4, W Zelenskaya (Russ) 1:26 93; 5, A Haas (Austria) 1:26 99; 6, H Lindh (US) 1:27.17, 7, S Schuster (Austria) 1:27.18, equal 8, V Stallmaier (Austria) and R Heeusl (Ger) 1.27.24; 10, B Perez (It) 1:27 30

SNOOKER

BLACKPOOL: World championship: Fifth qualifying round: S Judd (Eng) bt D McGeechey (N Ire) 10-5; M Couch (Eng) bt T Wilson (Eng) 10-5. J Higgins (Scot) bt M O'Neill (N Ire) 10-8; J Walton (Eng) bt J Rea (Scot) 10-3. J Burns (Eng) bt B Harris (Eng) 10-5; S Pitman (Eng) bt J Read (Eng) 10-4; S Meakin (Eng) bt T Finstad (Can) 10-5, D McLellan (Scot) bt R Williams (Eng) 10-4; M Davis (Eng) bt K Ashby (Eng) 10-4; S Lemmens (Bel) bt B Oliver (Eng) 10-4; M Judge (Ire) bt S Campbell (Eng) 10-5; C Small (Scot) bt M Geudens (Bel) 10-4; J Michie (Eng) bt R Hull (Fin) 10-6; S Mezzocchi (Eng) bt J Burnett (Scot) 10-7; R Marshall (Eng) bt J Rippon (Eng) 10-8. L Robinson (Eng) bt J Woodman (Eng) 10-6; E Henderson (Sco) bt S Prest (Eng) 10-6; N Mosley (Eng) bt P McPhillips (Scot) 10-9, P Cawley (Eng) bt P Browne (Ire) 10-5. J Chambers (Eng) bt M Wilson (Eng) 10-9; W Rendle (Eng) bt T Shaw (Eng) 10-8.

SQUASH

WELWYN GARDEN CITY: SRA National Championships: Men: First round: P Marshall (Leics) bt J Rennie (Ches) 9-4, 9-1, 9-2; D Webb (Essex) bt C Clare (Avon) 9-7, 9-6, 9-2; S Meads (Berks) bt B Beeson (Northumbria) 9-7, 9-6, 9-5; P Johnson (Kent) bt A Davies (Wales) 9-5, 9-8, 9-5, S Parke (Yorks) bt D Harris (Essex) 8-10, 9-2, 9-6, 9-6, T Garner (Sussex) bt P Carter (Herts) 10-8, 9-5, 8-6; T Hands (Essex) bt D Ryan (Ire) 9-5, 9-4, 9-3; J Ransome (Essex) bt J Wellings (Sussex) 9-5, 9-4, 9-2. Woman: First round: S Horner (Yorks) bt E Parke (Yorks) 9-0, 9-2, 9-0; S Medle (Scot) bt A Murphy (Essex) 9-1, 9-6, 9-3; S Felton (Northants) bt T Shenton (Staffs) 9-7, 9-6, 9-7; S Spacey (Herts) bt R Burgin (Leics) 9-1, 9-2, 10-9; L Charman (Sussex) bt N Boddington (Kent) 9-4, 9-3, 9-5. C Jackman (Norfolk) bt D Leaves (Sussex) 9-0, 9-0, 9-4; J Martin (Northumbria) bt S Brind (Kent) 9-4, 9-3, 9-4; P Nicholl (Durham & Cleveland) bt B Thomson (Wores) 9-6, 9-3, 9-2.

TENNIS

MELBOURNE: Australian Open qualifying event: Men's singles: First round: M Petchey (GB) bt J Salter (Aus) 6-2, 4-6, 6-0; D Johnson (US) bt N Broad (GB) 6-2, 3-6, 6-4; A Foster (GB) bt M Draper (Aus) 6-3, 6-2

SYDNEY: New South Wales Open: Men's singles: Quarter-finals: I Lendl (US) bt R Reneberg (US) 7-5, 4-6, 6-3, P Sampras (US) bt A Krickstein (US) 6-1, 6-3, P Korda (Cz) bt D Vacek (Cz) 6-3, 6-2. T Martin (US) bt N Kulb (Swe) 5-7, 8-1, 7-6 Women's singles: Second round: M J Fernandez (US) bt A Frazer (US) 6-2, 7-6; B Pfitmer (Ger) bt F Labat (Arg) 6-3, 6-0. L Ferrando (It) bt L Meskhi (Geo) 3-6, 6-1, 6-1; K Date (Japan) bt S Stafford (US) 1-6, 6-2, 6-1

AUCKLAND: New Zealand Open: Men's singles: Second round: P McEnroe (US) bt R Gilbert (Fr) 4-6, 7-5, 7-5; T Carbonell (Sp) bt J Greenhalgh (NZ) 7-6, 6-2. K Braasch (Ger) bt G Raoux (Fr) 6-4, 6-4. M Gustafsson (Swe) bt G Stafford (SA) 7-5, 4-6, 6-4

HOBART: Tasmanian Open: Women's singles: Quarter-finals: R McQuillan (Aus) bt G Helgeson (US) 7-5, 7-6. C Rubin (US) bt S Farina (It) 6-2, 5-7, 6-2; M Endo (Japan) bt B Reinstadler (Austria) 6-0, 6-3; K Boogert (Holl) bt L Golarse (It) 7-5, 6-3.

JAKARTA: Indonesian Open: Men's singles: Second round: M Chang (US) bt M Cherpentier (Arg) 6-3, 6-3 Quarter-finals: D Rikl (Cz) bt J-P Fleurian (Fr) 6-2, 7-5; M Rush (Ven) bt K Alami (Mor) 6-3, 7-6, Y El Aynaoui (Mor) bt B Wijaya (Indo) 6-3, 6-4. Chang w o. P Weiss (US) scr.

ADELAIDE: Exhibition tournament: Group A: W Masur (Aus) bt H Leconte (Fr) 7-6, 2-6, 7-5 Group B: S Edberg (Swe) bt P Reiter (Aus) 6-3, 6-7, 6-4.

EASTBOURNE: Remington championships: Mother and daughter: D Hunter and K Hunter-Whitshaw (Weybridge) bt Y Durham and S Durham (Bexhill-on-Sea) 7-5, 6-2. Father and son: P Siviter and M Siviter (Stourbridge) bt K. Glass and R Glass (Weybridge) 6-3, 6-3.

YACHTING

FREMANTLE: International Blind Regatta: Heats: B1 Class: 1, New Zealand Dpts; 2, United Kingdom 19 7; 3, Western Australia 26 1. B2 Class: 1, New Zealand 3pts; 2, Sweden 11 7; 3, United Kingdom 13.7. B3 Class: 1, United Kingdom 6pts, 2, New Zealand 11 7; 3, Western Australia 16 7

THE TIMES SNOW SERVICE

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TODAY'S FUTURES

Kick-off 7.30pm unless stated

FOOTBALL

Endsleigh Insurance League
Second division
Swansea v Rotherham .....

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Holywell v Bangor City.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Skelmersdale United v Bootle.

RUGBY UNION

Under-21 International
Wales v Scotland (2.30)
(at Glamorgan Wanderers).....

University International
Wales v Scotland (2.30)
(at Llanrumney).....

Club matches
Abertillery v Pontypool (7.15) .....
Aimwick v Melrose (7.0) .....
Bridgend v Stirling County (7.15) .....
Cardiff v Ayr (7.15) .....
Hawick v Tynedale (7.0) .....
Kelso v Stewart's Mel FP (7.0) .....
Llanelli v Boroughmuir (7.15) .....
Maesteg v Newbridge (7.15) .....
Newport v Glasgow High/Kel (7.15) ...
Pontypridd v South Wales Police (7.15)
Tredegar v Ebbw Vale (7.15) .....

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship
Leeds v Wigan .....
YOUNGERS ALLIANCE: First division: Bradford Northern v Batley; Castleford v Hull; Hallax v Featherstone; Ryedale York v Wakefield; Warrington v St Helens.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER - LEAGUE: Sunderland v Leicester

THE TIMES SPORTS SERVICE

RACING
Commentary
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Answers from page 40

ENFUNDYING

(a) Benumbed with cold, frozen stiff, apparently from the OF *enfundy* adjective of *enfondre to be benumbed with cold*: "This malice of enfundying Begouth, for throw hys cald lying... Him fell that hard perplexity."

DEMOCRITEAN

(c) Laughing at everything, of, pertaining to, or after the style of Democritus, a Greek philosopher of the 5th century BC, known as the laughing philosopher, or of his atomistic or other theories.

HOREHOUND

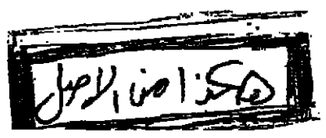
(c) A labiate herb, *Marrubium vulgare*, having stem and leaves covered with white cottony pubescence, its aromatic bitter juice was much used as a remedy for coughs; hence extended to several allied herbs, horehound proper being then distinguished as Common or White Horehound, from the OE *hdr* hear, hoary + *hune* the name of a plant of uncertain origin: "The first kind is our White Horehound, the second is the black stinking Horehound."

JUSSEL

(a) In ancient cookery, a name including various forms of mince or hotch-potch, from the OF *jussel* juice or broth. Latin *ius* broth or soup: "Jussel, a meat made of chopped herbs, *minutal*, a hodge podge, a dish composed of a variety of meat."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 g4+ fxg3 e.p. (1 .. Kh4 2 Kh2! h5 3 Rh6 mating) 2 Rh4+! gxh4 (2 ... Kxh4 3 Rxh6 is mate) 3 Rh5+ Qxh5 4 axb5 and the pawn queens.





Sunny Miami seems a million miles away as Audrey Cooper, left, and Amanda Glover practise in a Lewisham gymnasium for the world championship meeting in Florida this weekend. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

Life's a beach for volleyball partners

Gareth A Davies meets two British girls trying to make an impact in an Olympic sport played in a Copacabana setting

THE England women's beach volleyball pairing of Audrey Cooper and Amanda Glover will arrive on the sun-bleached sands of Miami Beach today for the second tournament in the world series championships, starting tomorrow.

São Paulo hosted the first of the five tournaments last November, where Cooper and Glover, the little setter and the big hitter, finished thirteenth, beating Cuba but losing to Brazil.

Apart from deciding the world champions, the five-match series has added importance for Cooper and Glover for it provides an avenue for direct qualification into the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. After a showpiece tournament in Almeria, Spain, at the last Olympics, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) saw fit to recognise beach volleyball as an Olympic sport. Although qualification is not yet clearly defined, it seems likely that those countries with a top-ten ranking after the World Series can book their beach mats for 1996.

Beach volleyball has become a huge industry in the United States. The top women's pairs can make up to $100,000 (about £67,000) a year in prize-money. A string of their male counterparts are already dollar millionaires in career-earnings and national American television coverage has provided a devoted following to fill the purpose-built beach stadiums. Crowds of more than 8,000 are expected at the Miami tournament.

It will seem a far cry from rain-drenched London, where Glover is a recreation officer for Hackney Council and Cooper a publicity manager for Racal. Although Glover admits to being a "closet beach bum" and Cooper to indulging in sunbed sessions, both point out that Miami's *Baywatch* atmosphere and Forties architecture are merely a backdrop to fierce competition.

"Our aim is to make the next Olympics," Cooper said. "A high world ranking and winning the English grand prix for the next two years could put us there."

"Miami is a major tournament in the United States and this will be the first time that so many countries have competed there," Glover added. "When people find out that we're actually from London, where there are no beaches, they're sure to be surprised."

The irony will become two-fold when their fellow competitors realise that Glover and Cooper, members of the Woolwich Brixton side who lead the National League at six-a-side indoor volleyball, train indoors. A sports arena in downtown Dunstall, Wolverhampton, provides the only indoor beach volleyball court in Europe. Steven Granger, the manager has spared no expense in converting an indoor cricket arena into a beach, complete with a volleyball court, palm trees, surf boards and rubber rings. The pair have regular weekend training sessions there, free of charge.

"I see it as providing a service to my country," Granger said. "The girls need all the help they can get."

Beach volleyball *is* a growing sport in Britain. The English five-tournament grand prix, which began three years ago, has promoted greater interest. Ian Fairclough, the chairman of the Beach Commission, which comes under the umbrella of the English Volleyball Association, said there has been "a steady growth of media interest in the sport. The grand prix has grown to 56 pairs competing in the main events as opposed to 24 pairs three years ago".

Weymouth, the largest of the five tournaments, last year attractive 100 pairs and 500 spectators for finals. The Beach Commission has been approached to set up an international event in the Isle of Wight.

The British pair are confident of doing well in Miami, despite being a new partnership. "We're still learning about each other," Cooper said. "What we need is a coach. We'd like the Beach Commission to look at employing one, part-time. It's crucial. All the top teams have coaches."



Benazzi, whose discipline has tempered natural aggression on the field

Versatile Benazzi learns patience on his travels

David Hands on France's Moroccan-born open-side flanker, whose athleticism and intelligence will test Ireland in Paris tomorrow

ENGLISHMEN have enjoyed the versatility of Ben Clarke over the last 12 months as the Bath rugby union forward has moved, with commendable aplomb, from No 8 to blind-side flanker to open-side flanker. Indeed, Clarke's worth has been recognised on the Continent in newspaper polls and in New Zealand, where they would love to see more of his size and speed.

Yet perhaps the English have been blind to the adaptable skills of another forward that bear comparison with those of Clarke. Abdelatif Benazzi, the Moroccan-born player who will appear on the open side for France against Ireland tomorrow, is the most experienced of all the No 7s who will appear in this season's five nations' championship, even though he has played in that position only six times in internationals.

Benazzi, 25, has the capacity to move from the second row to the back row, which even Clarke has not done. In his 20 games for France, he has played at lock nine times, at No 8 five times and on the flank, which is a tribute not only to his athleticism but his intelligence. Moreover, the player he has so confidently replaced, Laurent Cabannes, was generally acknowledged last season to be one of the outstanding competitors in the championship.

Now that Cabannes is injured, what will Ken O'Connell and his Irish colleagues make of Benazzi, at 6ft 6in and 17st 5lb, jumping in the relative freedom of seven in the lineout and looming around the Parc des Princes with the robust but controlled aggression that tested even the Australians last autumn?

That control has been well-learnt. As a young man, Benazzi attracted the eye far too frequently for what he should not have been doing. There were the circumstances of his abrupt departure from Morocco, for whom he played in qualifying matches for the 1991 World Cup, in favour of France, where he became resident in 1988; of his abrupt departure from the Sydney Football Stadium, sent off after only 14 minutes of his international debut and of his domestic suspension for misconduct in a club match which removed him from France's 1992 summer tour to Argentina.

Not that Benazzi is unique in this respect. French rugby is a difficult school, where you learn to stand your ground and others, besides Benazzi, have been forced to acquire discipline. It is far more relevant to remember the punch with which Adri Geldenhuys, the indisciplined Northern Transvaal lock, greeted Benazzi when he came on as a replacement in the first international of South Africa's 1992 tour and Benazzi's studied indifference. Relevant, too, that an X-ray cleared up doubts about a fractured cheekbone and Benazzi was able to play a week later. He is a hard man.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

His pairing at second row with Olivier Roumat in that South African series looked a combination to serve France for many years and they sustained the partnership through to the 1993 championship title. Yet it was disrupted last summer in South Africa when a knee injury prevented Benazzi playing in the internationals. He re-emerged against the Australians as a flanker last autumn and was magnificent in the blanket defence the French laid down to win the first international in Bordeaux.

His preference for France ahead of Morocco, where he was also a junior record-holder for discus and shot, may always haunt him and aspects of his upbringing in Oujda remain. A practising Moslem, he enjoys himself without touching alcohol and he has learnt from his mistakes, tempering his natural aggression with patience.

He made his international debut as a flanker, but, given the choice, he would prefer to play No 8 — as would Clarke — and did so throughout the 1991 Rugby World Cup until the quarter-final against England, when he was replaced by Marc Cecillon. France lost. But at least Agen, the club he joined in 1989 from Cahors, play him on the flank, so he is well-versed in the lines of running required.

He has the power so necessary to play the modern game, the size and strength to hold up the ball until support arrives. In that sense, he is a player whose time has come, now that interpretation of the law requires so many big men standing off rucks and mauls.

Like O'Connell, his opposite number tomorrow, Benazzi is a sales representative. After 80 minutes parading their respective wares about Paris, it will be surprising if Benazzi does not believe that business is picking up.

FA Vase offers reward for Parker at Soham

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL
BY WALTER GAMMIE

WHEN Soham Town Rangers were crushed 10-3 by Wroxham last October, Dave Mann, the manager, returned to the dressing-room to tell his players that he was resigning. It was left to one of them, Andy Parker, to pick up the pieces of a return to the Jewson Eastern Counties League premier division that was threatening to go wrong.

Parker, 33, a roof tiler, who lives near the ground and has been connected with the club on and off for 18 years, gamely took up the challenge. An attractive trip to Aldershot Town in the fourth round of the FA Vase tomorrow offers a reward for his efforts.

"We just needed to be a bit more patient," he said. "The players were good enough, but just needed time to settle after our promotion from the first division last season. Even in that game against Wroxham, it was the case of us having 15 chances and scoring from three and their having 12 and taking ten."

Soham look forward to a day to compare with the one in October 1958 when they beat the mighty Pegasus 6-1 before 3,000 people. Steve Wignall, the Aldershot manager, has had Soham watched, and anticipates "a good open game". As well he might. Parker said: "The day they watched us we played Haverhill, from 2-0 up we went 4-0 down and won 5-4."

If tomorrow's tie is settled at the first attempt, Aldershot, on course for further promotion in their second season in the Diadora League, will resume battle against their neighbours, Farnborough Town, in a Hampshire Senior Cup quarter-final at the Recreation Ground on Tuesday.

Aldershot came away with a 1-1 draw after extra time in an explosive meeting before a crowd of 2,439 at Cherrywood Road last Tuesday. Farnborough had led through Jamie Horton, but as the match neared its finish, Aldershot won a penalty only for Maik Taylor, the goalkeeper, to save from Danny Holmes. Shortly afterwards, Bradley Pratt, the Farnborough defender, was sent off for an off-the-ball challenge on Osgood. Within three minutes, Osgood had scored the equaliser.

Wignall said: "We seen a physical side and we were renowned for good football and so are Farnborough. The silliness came from passions generated in the heat of a local derby."

Recalling British role in Olympic birth

BY DAVID MILLER

TOMORROW marks the centenary of the day that the recreation of the Olympic Games moved from theory towards reality. On January 15, 1894, Baron Pierre de Coubertin sent his letter to foreign athletic associations inviting them to attend an "International Congress of Amateurs" in Paris that June.

The letter was from the *Union des Societes Françaises de Sports Athletiques*, but the springboard was British. The committee for that first modern Olympic congress — the centenary of which takes place in Paris this summer — consisted of Charles Herbert, a civil servant and honorary secretary of the Amateur Athletic Association, Professor William Sloane, of Princeton University, New Jersey, the son of Scottish immigrants, and de Coubertin.

In February 1894, de Coubertin yet again visited England — following previous journeys to Rugby School in 1883 and Much Wenlock, the home since 1850 of the Shropshire Olympian games, in 1890 — to discuss the agenda for the congress. He knew that his ambition to introduce in France the character-building disciplines of organised games could only be achieved with the help of foreign example, primarily British, and optimistically the re-establishment of the Olympics.

The meeting took place at the London Sports Club, hosted by Sir John Astley, and was supported by the Prince of Wales and Arthur Balfour, later prime minister. De Coubertin's letter of invitation had memorably stated: "It is necessary that we should preserve in sport those characteristics of nobility and chivalry which have distinguished it in the past, so that it may continue to play the same part in the education of the peoples of today as it played so admirably in the days of ancient Greece. Imperfect humanity has ever tended to transform the Olympic athlete into the paid gladiator . . . the last subject on the agenda paper is the request that you will sanction if not the realisation at any rate the preparation of an international agreement that will revive the Olympic games every four years."

Of the 13 members of the International Olympic Committee that was to be formed, two were British: Herbert and Lord Ampthill. Ambassador Extraordinary and rowing Silver Goblets winner. Of 49 honorary members appointed in 1894, eight were British. Besides Astley and Balfour, these were: William Brookes (founder of Much Wenlock Games and to whom de Coubertin attributed his discovery of Olympism); Lord Aberdare, vice-chancellor of the University of Wales; Lord Dufferin, British ambassador in Paris, who had organised the first English v French club football matches; the Prince of Wales, who among other exploits took part in the first British ice-hockey match played on the frozen lake in Buckingham Palace gardens; Charles Waldstein, a director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, who persuaded the Greek royal family to support the cause; and Hodgson Pratt, a famous pacifist.

It is ironic that, under the existing preliminary schedule for the centenary congress in August-September, there is no apparent recognition or tribute to Britain's historic contribution to the Olympic movement, to its initiation of many Olympic sports and the concept of fair play.

On the preparation committee are three French, two Belgians, Italians and Swiss, one each from Australia, China, Ethiopia, Finland, South Korea, Mexico, Rumania, Russia, Serbia and Spain, but nobody from Britain, Greece or the United States! Hardly fair play, you might say, but a further reflection, perhaps, of the decline of contemporary British influence and prestige.

To ensure that the richness of British Olympic heritage is properly observed in the centenary year, Don Anthony, director of education for the British Olympic Association, has published a paper co-ordinating the huge range of available archival and literary resources and proposes suitable ceremonies. The 24 resources include: Archery — Ingo Simon collection, University of Manchester; athletics — centre for athletics literature, University of Birmingham; cycling — national archive, Warwick University; gymnastics — Jim Prestidge library, Lilleshall Sports Centre; modern pentathlon — Army School of PT, Aldershot; rowing — Henley Regatta HQ; swimming — Harold Fern library, Loughborough; tennis — Wimbledon Museum; wrestling — Olympic Academy, Salford; and the Much Wenlock Museum, Shropshire.

Crossword winners

TWENTY readers have won prizes in *The Times* jumbo sports crossword. The senders of the first ten correct entries drawn have won copies of *The Challenge, the official story of the British Steel Challenge*, signed by Chay Blyth, while the ten runners-up have won copies of *Visions of Sport*.

The first ten entries drawn were from Mr A Abbott, of Sheerness, Kent; Mr G Murray, London, SW6; Mr R Chandler, Clevedon, Avon; Mr N Roberts, Horley, Surrey; Mr T Spencer, Wood Green, London; Mr T Griffiths, Doncaster; Mr H Syndercombe, Sutton, Surrey; Mr W Young, Sunderland; Miss E White, Berkhamsted, Herts and Mr R Hindmarsh, Sittingbourne, Kent.

The ten runners-up were Mr A Axten, Bungay, Suffolk; Mr J Wohlers, Southport; Mr C Lewis, London, EC4; Mr B Thorp, St Brelade, Jersey; Mrs G Young, New Barnet, Herts; Miss S Edwards, Birkenhead; Mr A Roberts, Skipton, N Yorkshire; Mr T Price, Guiseley, Leeds; Mr J Allred, Blackburn and Mr P Calvert, Derby.

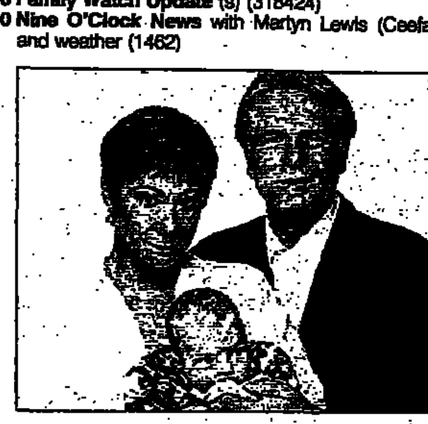
ACROSS: 1, Wimbledon; 6, Grassy; 9, Chris Evert; 13, Lutic; 14, Run up; 15, Relay; 16, Captain; 18, Evens; 20, Evans; 21, Ards; 24, Stoke; 25, Spes; 27, Underarm heat; 28, Bide; 30, Sam; 31, Photo; 32, Eden; 35, Eton Wall; 38, League; 39, Allen; 41, Cod; 42, Gate; 43, Grand slam; 45, Drake; 46, Oaths; 48, Tony; 49, Tip; 50, Run; 53, Aim; 56, Own; 58, Goal striker; 59, Billy Wright; 60, Bye; 61, Coe; 62, Imp; 65, Sea; 69, Spar; 72, Aways; 73, Lever; 74, Passenger; 76, A fly; 77, Old; 78, Rusty; 80, Energy; 81, Reserves; 83, Free; 84, Teams; 85, Oar; 86, Hand; 91, Races the clock; 95, Eric; 96, Peels; 98, Kent; 99, India; 100, Royal; 101, Arsenal; 103, Saint; 104, Broke; 105, Irons; 106, Equestrian; 107, Legend; 108, Short odds.

DOWN: 1, Wales; 2, Mike Atherton; 3, Laces up; 4, Defends; 5, Nursery; 6, Generous; 7, Appeal; 8, Stride; 9, Crabs; 10, Skated; 11, Vet; 12, Ten second count; 17, Approach shot; 19, No ball; 22, Rhythm; 23, Saunders; 25, Kim; 29, Spin; 30, Slater; 32, Eight; 33, Pony; 34, Agent; 37, East; 38, Trap; 40, Leonard; 44, Links; 47, Tough; 51, Maria; 52, Assists; 53, Arc; 54, Mile; 55, Blues; 57, Abandon the game; 58, Gerald Davies; 63, Player; 64, Leotaxic; 65, Save; 66, Ashes; 67, Entry; 68, Wedge; 70, Peter Radford; 71, Boyle; 75, Eleven; 78, Rush; 79, Trades; 82, John Bond; 85, One; 86, Scorers; 87, Tony Mee; 88, Skate; 90, A plane; 92, Cards; 93, Stable; 94, Pennies; 97, Spain; 102, Eye.

RADIO 1
RADIO 2
RADIO 5
WORLD SERVICE
CLASSIC FM
VIRGIN 1215

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (77511)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (69327375)
9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk hosts another studio discussion (s) (4336172) **9.45 Newshound.** Current affairs quiz (s) (1593337)
10.00 News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (9791066) **10.05 Playdays** (s) (5840375)
10.30 Good Morning ... With Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (s) (56998)
12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2365733) **12.05 Pebble Mill.** Michael Caine introduces a special edition to celebrate the 45th anniversary this year of the Variety Club of Great Britain. Jill Dando interviews the Duke of Edinburgh about his work with the club since 1949 and the veteran golfer, Arnold Palmer, talks about fund-raising around the world (s) (7621627) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (67332646)
1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (97714)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (13358375) **1.50 The Travel Quiz** with Andi Peters (s) (26939917)
2.20 Holiday (r). (Ceefax) (s) (87257733) **2.50 The Flying Doctors.** Drama series set in the Australian outback (Ceefax) (s) (6249207)
3.35 Bugs Bunny. (7206207) **3.45 Open a Door.** The Philippines (7459849) **3.50 Moomin.** Animation (s) (6365375) **4.15 Jackanory** (r) (s) (1485153) **4.30 The Animals of Farthing Wood.** Animation (Ceefax) (s) (9383172)
4.55 Newsround Extra. Juliet Morris reports from Colombia on the exploitation of child labour (8514646) **5.10 Grange Hill.** Secondary school drama serial. (Ceefax) (s) (1419820)
5.35 Neighbours. (r) (Ceefax) (418882)
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Jennie Bond. (Ceefax) and weather (511)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (191)
7.00 Family Watch. Last in the series of five programmes from the homes of four families (s) (7581)
7.30 Tomorrow's World. A look at hi-tech bus stops which provide information for travellers. Will they encourage more people to travel on public transport? And will the X-ray be replaced by the medical hologram? (375)
8.00 Only Fools and Horses. Del has the chance to buy some gold chains at a bargain price but the Almighty intervenes (r). (Ceefax) (526733)
8.50 Family Watch Update (s) (318424)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis (Ceefax) and weather (1462)

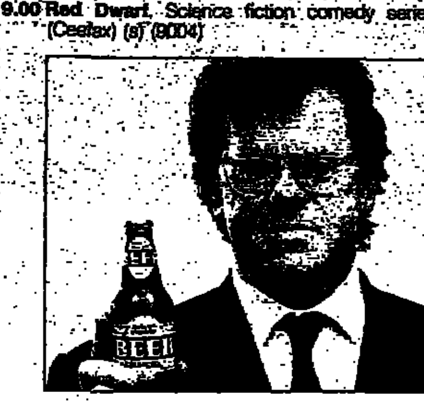


New parents Wanamaker and Faith (9.30pm)

9.30 CHOICE **Love Hurts.** (Ceefax) (591849)
Northern Ireland: Anderson on the Box 10.25 Love Hurts 11.15 Five Nations' Rugby Preview 11.40-1.45am Film: Gorky Park
10.20 Five Nations' Rugby Union Preview (511085). **Wales:** All Our Lives 10.50 Five Nations Rugby Preview 1.15-1.20am Film: Gorky Park
10.45 FILM: Gorky Park (1983) starring William Hurt and Lee Marvin. Crime thriller. Three faceless corpses are found buried in the snow and the Moscow policeman assigned to the case uncovers a web of corruption. Directed by Michael Apted. (Ceefax) (51503578)
12.50am Weather (4112283)

BBC2

8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) (7476545)
8.15 Westminster Daily. (9855627)
9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, 1.20 Charlie Chalk (57349714) 1.35-1.40 *Puppydog Tales* (98341375)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (15963714)
2.05 Words and Pictures. Children's entertainment (s) (62561337)
2.15 Sport on Friday introduced by Helen Rollason. Hockey: the Glenfiddich International indoor tournament from Glasgow; Rugby Union: a preview of tomorrow's five nations' championship matches (640286). With **News** (Ceefax) and weather at **2.55** and **3.50** (7438356)
4.00 Today's the Day. News quiz presented by Martyn Lewis (s) (284)
4.30 Dilemmas. In the first of a new series Jenni Murray explores ways of coping with anger (288) **5.00 Catchword** with Paul Cola (s) (8917) **5.30 The Quest for the Rose** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (240)
6.00 Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons. Animation (Ceefax) (785207)
6.25 The Man from UNCLE. Spoof secret agent series (Ceefax) (555424)
7.15 Ski Sunday Special. Highlights of today's women's downhill from Cortina d'Ampezzo plus a preview of the men's event at Kitzbühl and the Hahnenkamm downhill this weekend. (s) (508286)
7.45 What the Papers Say with Alastair Campbell of *Today* (822882)
8.00 Badgering the Diggers. This award-winning environmental documentary highlights the efforts being made to save the badger from the attentions of badger diggers (7801)
8.30 The Great British Garden Show. Ruth Langsford visits the Skelton Show in Cumbria. (Ceefax) (s) (3608)
9.00 Red Dwarf. Science fiction comedy series (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8004)



Jonathan Meades is ale and hearty (9.30pm)

9.30 Further Abroad. Jonathan Meades looks at buildings connected with the brewing industry. (Ceefax) (s) (72356)
10.00 Blackadder II. The first episode of the second series, set in Elizabethan times (r) (Ceefax) (s) (43356)
10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (331849)
11.15 CHOICE **Fantasy Football League** (859424)
11.45 Weather (640004)
11.50 Ren and Stimpy. Cult cartoon series from America (r) (789207)
12.15am FILM: House by the River (1950, b/w). Thriller in which an unsuccessful writer accidentally kills the maid while trying to seduce her and tries to pin the blame on his brother. Starring Louis Hayward, directed by Fritz Lang (294863). Ends at 1.45

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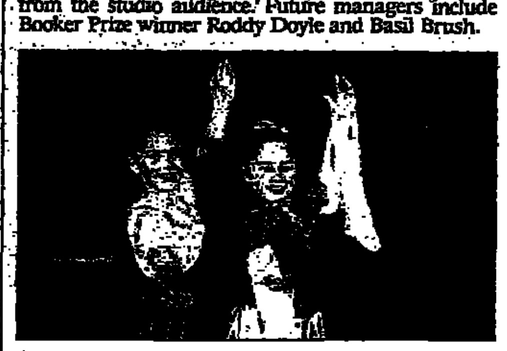
CHOICE

Love Hurts
BBC1, 9.30pm

With older parents much in the news, the romantic drama opens its final series on a topical note. Frank (Adam Faith) and Tessa (Zoë Wanamaker) are preparing for the birth of their baby. He has a grown-up daughter and she is no spring chicken either. At least there has been no recourse to artificial insemination. The episode has been written by Catherine Johnson. If it is not based on personal experience, then she has done some impressive research. The joys and alarms of pregnancy are authentically chronicled and as the couple anticipate their new arrival there is a devastating put-down from Frank's daughter: "All those sleepless nights and smelly nappies, I bet you can't wait!"

Fantasy Football League
BBC2, 11.15pm

It has been played in pubs throughout the land, as well as on Radio 5, so why should television scorn a good idea? Hosted by Frank Skinner and David Baddiel, the show invites two celebrities (this week: Peter Cook and Mandy Smith) to act as guest managers. Their teams are fictional but the players are real, drawn from the Premier League. Points accrue according to actual performances over the previous week. A striker who finds the net increases the total, a defence that leaks goals reduces it. The show's other regular features include a lighthearted pick of great moments in football history, a gossip column and questions from the studio audience. Future managers include Booker Prize winner Roddy Doyle and Basil Brush.



Young precision skaters in training (C4, 8.00pm)

Short Stories: Dreams on Ice
Channel 4, 8.00pm

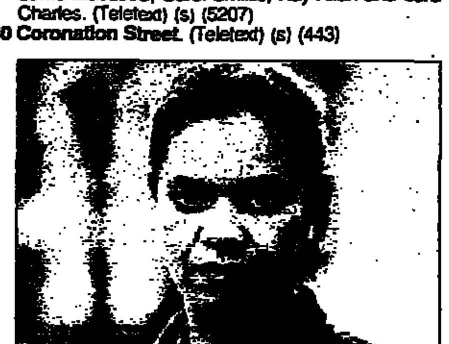
The Jemettes are unbeaten in European junior precision skating competitions. They are young, some only nine, and all are girls. Their role model is Jayne Torvill. Precision skating is apparently not considered macho enough for the male sex. But it is highly skilled, involving up to 24 skaters at a time creating patterns and formations to music. The film catches the Jemettes on their home ground, the Lee Valley Ice Rink in east London, as they prepare for their Christmas show *Sleeping Beauty*. For the girls it means 15 hours a week at the rink. For two of the mums it means many more hours making the costumes. One reckons she has used 200 yards of velcro and 2,000 yards of thread. Busby Berkeley would have been proud of the result.

The Chief
ITV, 9.00pm

The Triads are making trouble for Chief Constable Cade (Martin Shaw) in a typically robust episode of the East Anglian police drama. But as he has finally got shot of his French girlfriend he can devote full attention to the case. It is a tricky one, involving a planeload of illegal immigrants from the Far East and a Triad reign of terror on Cade's patch. The boyfriend of the brisk and capable Anne Stewart (Karen Archer) is also on the move, but only as far as a job with the council. Will she get promoted at last or is she condemned to be the eternal deputy? If the plotting is continues to be a shade melodramatic and the dialogue declaimed rather than spoken, this remains a lively and watchable series. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV with Michael Wilson and Eamonn Holmes **9.00 Top of the Morning** with Amanda Redington (1396733)
9.25 Win, Lose or Draw. Parlour game show (6883424) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (5826795)
10.00 The Time ... The Place ... Topical studio discussion chaired by John Stapleton (s) (7108004)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine programme with Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley (61551627) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (2361917)
12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (1379462)
12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (1354153) **1.25 Home and Away.** Australian family drama. (Teletext) (29453694) **1.55 Capital Woman.** Anneka Rice and Shyama Perera look at knitwear and home baking (s) (13346630)
2.20 A Country Practice. Drama serial set in Australian country town (87242801) **2.50 Take the High Road.** Drama serial set in the Highlands (3567646)
3.20 News (Teletext) (7267004) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7266375)
3.30 Children's ITV: The Magic House. Stories and songs for younger viewers (7283356) **3.45 Cartoons** (7435269) **3.55 Zzzap!** Comic strip for deaf and hearing children (6388462) **4.15 The Dreamstone.** Cartoon (s) (2345998) **4.40 Just Us.** Step-family drama serial. (Teletext) (s) (7095559)
5.10 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (5469559)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News with John Suchet (Teletext) and weather (766066)
6.00 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (64337)
7.00 Celebrity Squares presented by Bob Monkhouse. With Joe Pasquale, Gladiator Jet, June Whitfield, John Regis, Bobby Davro, Helen Atkinson Wood, Lewis MacLeod, Carol Smillie, Ray Allan and Lord Charles. (Teletext) (s) (5207)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (s) (443)

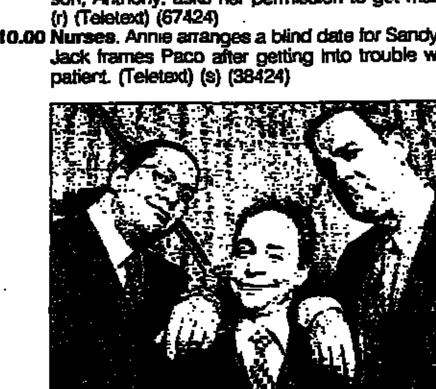


Jaye Griffiths may have to renege (8.00pm)

8.00 The Bill: Dealer Wins. Sun Hill's new detective inspector (Jaye Griffiths) may be prevented from keeping her promise. (Teletext) (1627)
8.30 Surgical Spirit. New series of the hospital comedy. (Teletext) (3462)
9.00 CHOICE **The Chief.** (Teletext) (s) (3795)
10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald (Teletext) and weather (30882)
10.30 FILM: The China Lake Murders (1990) starring Tom Skerritt. Crime thriller in which a small-town detective investigating a series of murders clashes with a big city cop on holiday in the area. Directed by Alan Metzger (12226646)
12.05 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (6891860)
12.15 Whose Round is it Anyway? A look at pub quizzes (s) (10825)
12.45 Whale On. Music and a topical discussion (697776)
1.45 ITV Chart Show (s) (9453221)
2.35 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema. Film reviews (8697979)
3.05 World Trickshot Championships. Snooker action (4166196)
4.00 Noisy Mothers. A look at the rock and heavy metal music scene (52776)
5.00 Sportsworld (41365)
5.30 ITN Morning News (89399) Ends at **5.59**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Pole Position. Animation (5629207)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (67337)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. Game show (r) (s) (57559)
9.30 Schools: Eureka! Discovering Japan (1514820) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen **10.00** Fourways Farm (3989608) **10.12** Beat That (5853849) **10.40** Off Limits: Talking About Sex (3613917) **11.06** Eurokids (5380191) **11.22** Stage One (6078337) **11.40** How We Used to Live (5345356)
12.00 House to House. Maya Even presents news from Westminster (37795)
12.30 Sesame Street. The guests are Whoopi Goldberg and Paula Poundstone (40676)
1.30 Take Five (r) (86559)
2.00 FILM: I Accuse (1958, b/w). The story of Alfred Dreyfus, the Jewish French army officer convicted of treason and sentenced to life imprisonment in 1894 on a trumped-up charge. His family and friends, assisted by Emile Zola, the writer, set out to prove his innocence. Directed by Jose Ferrer who also plays the role of Dreyfus (397248)
3.50 Barnaby: Father Dear Father. Animation (2163627)
3.55 The Pulse (r) (Teletext) (s) (4722240)
4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (356)
5.00 Cutting Edge. A repeat of Monday's documentary about neighbourhood disputes which lead to violence (r). (Teletext) (s) (5820)
6.00 Blossom. Six's new boyfriend gets the cold shoulder and Joey receives a letter from the White House. (Teletext) (s) (849)
6.30 Happy Days. American comedy series set in the 1950s. (Teletext) (801)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow (Teletext) and weather (952733) **7.50 First Reaction** (s) (109443)
8.00 CHOICE **Short Stories: Dreams on Ice** (Teletext) (9269)
8.30 Brookside. Ron is overcome by celebrity night at La Luz while Terry has a sobering experience. (Teletext) (s) (1004)
9.00 Nature Perfected. A look at formal gardens through the ages from the gardens of Japan to the spectacular grounds of Versailles. (r) (Teletext) (4172)
9.30 Cheers. Carla is not pleased when her teenage son, Anthony, asks her permission to get married. (r) (Teletext) (67424)
10.00 Nurses. Annie arranges a blind date for Sandy and Jack frames Paco after getting into trouble with a patient. (Teletext) (s) (38424)



Cleese, right, joins Penn and Teller (10.30pm)

10.30 The Unpleasant World of Penn and Teller. Jon Snow and John Cleese are the guests of the off-beat magicians Penn and Teller. (Teletext) (s) (682085)
11.05 The Word. Music, celebrity guests and chat, presented by Terry Christian, Dani Behr, Huffty and Mark Lamarr (s) (879849)
12.10am FILM: GI Blues (1960). Above-average musical starring Elvis Presley. Drawing on the experience of his service with the US Army in Germany, Elvis plays a soldier who plans to open a nightclub when he gets home. To raise the money, he takes a bet he can spend the night with a cabaret dancer, played by Juliet Prowse. Songs include "Wooden Heart" and "Blue Suede Shoes". Directed by Norman Taurog (234365). Ends at **2.00**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes with the Early Breakfast Show (FM only) **7.00** Steve Wright in the Morning **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Emma Freud with the Lunchtime Show **2.00** Mark Goodier **4.00** Nicky Campbell **7.00** Pete Tong's Essential Selection: Cool Cuts Chart, this week's Essential New Tune and the Mad Music Sweep **10.00** John Peel (FM only from **12.00**) **1.00-4.00am** Mark Tonderai (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Adrian Love **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Sarah Kennedy **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Sue Cook **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jameson at the Opera **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night **8.45** Comedy Bookcase: Stephen Potter's *Lifemanships*. Read by Tim Brooke-Taylor **9.00** Listen to the Band Wingates Band **10.00** Radio 2 Arts Programme from the finals of the BBC Young Musician of the Year contest **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00** Charles Nove with Night Ride

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition **9.00** Schools: Primary RE; **9.15** Playtime; **9.30** Music Box; **9.45** Something to Think About: Infant Assemblies; **10.00** Music Workshop: Music Course 3 **10.25** Johnnie Walker with the AM Alternative: live music **12.30pm** Over the Moon ... Sick *as a Parrot* **1.10** The Crunch with Liz Kershaw **2.30** BFBS Worldwide **4.05** John Inverdale's Drive-in **6.30** WICR **7.15** Four Babies, by Anne Fine. Read by Adrian Edmonson (final part) **7.30** Popcall **8.30** Euromix **9.30** Teen Lurve: Flirting Teenage love stories by Gareth Williams **10.10** Rave **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin. Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.10** British News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** You Know It Makes Sense **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Music Review **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Global Concerns **9.30** On the Move **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News **10.01** Focus on Faith **10.30** Broadway Lights **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** News in German **Noon** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** You Know It Makes Sense **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: *Flashman* **2.45** Global Concerns **3.00** News **3.15** Music Review **4.00** News **4.10** *British News* **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** Kaleidoskop **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.10** British News **10.15** People and Politics **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Business Report **11.15** Worldbrief **11.30** Multitrack 3 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** From the Weeklies **12.45** The Learning World **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Short Story: The Escape **1.45** Jazz Now and Then **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** People and Politics **3.00** World News **3.10** British News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** The Vintage Chart Show **4.00** News **4.15** Good Books

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Howells (Concerto for string orchestra) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Margaret Howard **7.00** Music Verdict **8.00** Evening Concert: Choice **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-5.00am** Robert Booth

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Graham Dene **4.00** Mandy Lloyd **7.00** Mitch Johnson **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Paul Coyle

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (13346530) **2.20-3.20** Murder, She Wrote (8838795) **5.10-5.40** Travel Trails (5469559) **6.00** Home And Away (772733) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (195191) **10.30** Anglia News And Weather (805559) **10.45** Dave Allen (856337) **11.15** Film: Commando (670191) **12.50am** The Twilight Zone (5708370) **1.05** Whale On (4411047) **2.05** Get Wet (6603047) **2.35** Noisy Mothers (4552283) **3.35** Videofashion (83288979) **4.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (87680) **4.30-5.30** New Music (40931)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.55 Shortland Street (13346530) **2.20-2.50** Material World (87242801) **5.10-5.40** Movies, Games And Videos (5469559) **6.00** Home And Away (772733) **6.25-7.00** Central News (195191) **10.30** Central News (814207) **10.40** Central Weekend (5379207) **12.10am** Film: The Newman Shame (345283) **1.50** Whale On (9612080) **2.50** The Beat (4576863) **3.50** The Album Show (2850399) **4.50-5.15** Challenge Of The Seas (94883047)

GRANADA
As London except: 12.55 Home And Away (1354153) **1.25** A Country Practice (89706424) **1.50** Take The High Road (26924085) **2.20** Microwave Master (87242801) **2.50-3.20** Sons And Daughters (3567646) **5.10-5.40** The Munsters Today (5469559) **6.00** Home And Away (207) **6.30-7.00** Granada Tonight (559) **10.30** Granada News (814207) **10.40** Up Front (781795) **11.40** Film: White Cargo (467153) **1.00am** Night Shift (4380903) **1.05** Whale On (4411047) **2.05** Get Wet (6603047) **2.35** Noisy Mothers (4552283) **3.35** Videofashion (83288979) **4.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (87680) **4.30-5.30** New Music (40931)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (13346530) **2.20-2.50** Travel Trails (87242801) **3.25-3.30** HTV News (7266375) **6.00** HTV News & Weather (207) **6.30-7.00** HTV Sportsweek (559) **10.30** HTV West News (814207) **10.40** Late And Live (5379207) **12.10am** Crime Story (2498991) **1.05** Whale On (4411047) **2.05** Get Wet (6603047) **2.35** Noisy Mothers (4552283) **3.35** Videofashion (83288979) **4.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (87660) **4.30-5.30** New Music (40931)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.00 Wales At Six (207) **6.30-7.00** The Way We Were (559) **10.30** HTV Wales News & Weather (814207) **10.40** Swansea Festival (189917) **11.10** The Big Story (264286) **11.40-12.10am** Coach (484240)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (13346530) **2.20** Take The High Road (87242801) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (3567646) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News & Weather (7266375) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Your Story (406286) **6.00-7.00** Meridian Tonight (64337) **10.40** Film: Topaz (60994066) **1.00am** Whale On (65950) **2.00** New Music (95844) **3.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (26467) **3.30-4.00** America's Top 10 (73457)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (13346530) **2.20-3.10** Murder She Wrote (5421578) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (119646) **6.30-7.00** Superchamps 1994 (559) **10.30** Tyne Tees News And Weather (814207) **10.40** Robson's Personal Call (791172) **11.35** Film: Midnight Movie Massacre (132620) **1.05am** Whale On (4411047) **2.05** The Big E (7896979) **3.00** Film: The Sea Chase (86751844) **5.05-5.30** The Twilight Zone

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.55 Wish You Were Here..? (26925356) **2.25** Gardener's Diary (87241172) **2.55-3.20** A Country Practice (3295849) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (64337) **10.30** Westcountry Latest (814207) **10.40** Billy (189917) **11.10** Film: One In A Million: The Ron LeFlore Story (980527) **1.05** Whale On (4411047) **2.05** Get Wet (6603047) **2.35** Noisy Mothers (4552283) **3.35** Videofashion (83288979) **4.00-5.30** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (17689)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (13346530) **2.20-3.10** Murder She Wrote (5421578) **5.55** Calendar (119646) **6.30-7.00** Superchamps 1994 (559) **10.40** Street Legal (791172) **11.35** Film: Midnight Movie Massacre (132620) **1.05am** Whale On (4411047) **2.05** The Big E (7896979) **3.00-5.30** Film. The Sea Chase (297263)

S4C
Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (67337) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (57559) **9.30** Yagolion (120917) **12.00pm** House To House (37795) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (87288) **1.00** Wowser (67354646) **1.15** Film: South Pacific (71259733) **4.00** Slot 23 (5288) **5.00** A Different World (3085) **5.30** Countdown (608) **6.00** News (867375) **6.20** Cwlwm Serch (736066) **6.25** Heno (193733) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (3849) **7.30** Jacpot (135) **8.00** Cefn Gwlad (8269) **8.30** Newyddion (1004) **9.00** Ana (234801) **9.50** Creature Comforts (982424) **10.00** Brookside (38424) **10.30** The Unpleasant World Of Penn And Teller (682085) **11.05** The Word (879849) **12.10am** Film: G.I. Blues (234365)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather 7.00 On Air: Including Mozart (Overture, The Magic Flute); Quilter (*Three English Dances*, Op 11); Schumann (Papillons, Op 2); Purcell (Two Fantasias, Z732-733); Mendelssohn (Song without Words, Op 30 No 6); Brahms (String Quintet No 2, Op 111)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Samuel Wesley (Symphony in B flat, Organ Concerto in D; Carmen Funèbre)
10.00 Musical Encounters: Yehudi Menuhin, accompanied by the pianist Glenn Gould, plays Beethoven (Piano Sonata in A flat, Op 26: Wilhelm Kempff); Schoenberg (Fantasy, Op 47: Menuhin and Gould) and Bloch (Violin Concerto: Menuhin; Philharmonia Orchestra)
12.00 Voices: Schubert (Schwanengesang: Olaf Bar, baritone, and Geoffrey Parsons, piano) (r)
1.00pm News 1.05 Bristol Lunchtime Concert: Philip Martin plays Haydn (Piano Sonata in A flat, HXVI 46); Liszt (Ballade No 2 in B minor); Debussy (L'isle joyeuse); Gottschalk (Romance, Little Book; Union-Paraphrase)
2.00 Youth Orchestras of the World: National Youth Orchestra under Andrew Mogrelia. Rachmaninov (The Isle of the Dead); Penderecki (Cello Concerto No 2: Alasdair Strange); Brahms (Symphony No 2 in D)
3.40 Peter Wallfisch: Haydn (Piano Sonata in D, HXVI 37); Schoenberg, arr Busoni (Piano Piece, Op 11 No 2); Schumann (Albumblätter — excerpts); Bridge (Four Characteristic Pieces); Brahms (Intermezzo, Op 117 No 1)
4.30 Songs from the Red Sea Hills: Traditional music from north-east Sudan
5.00 The Music Machine: On New York's West Side
5.15 In Tune, with Richard Baker. Haydn Wood (London Cameos); Handel (Cara Sposa, Rinaldo); Smetana (Symphonic Poem, Richard III); Warlock (Capriol Suite)
7.30 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier performs Messiaen (Turangalîla-Symphonie). With Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano, Valerie Hartmann-Claverie ondes martenot
9.00 Why Bother? Sir Arthur Streeb-Greebling (alias Peter Cook) explains how he tried to produce a horizontal bubble
9.10 Quatuor Mosaïques: Erich Höbarth and Andrea Bischof, violins, Anita Mitterer, viola, Christophe Coin, cello, play Haydn (String Quartet in G, Op 77 No 1); Schubert (String Quartet in A minor, D804)
10.15 Dave Frishberg — In Cabaret: See Choice
10.45 The Sound of Time Passing Slowly: A Himalayan town
11.30 Midnight Oil: Christopher Fox (Three Constructions, after Kurt Schwitters)
12.30-12.35am News 1.00-2.25 Night School (except in Scotland: as Radio 5 at 9am)

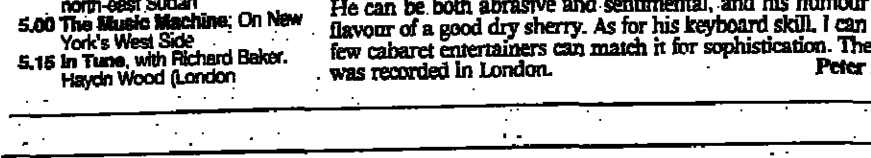
CHOICE

Evening Concert. *Classic FM, 8.00pm.*
Here is music written specially for, or "adopted" by, the cinema. Representing the former are the dramatic cantata for mezzo soprano, chorus and orchestra that Prokofiev based on his score for Eisenstein's *Alexander Nevsky*, and the suite Walton created from his music for Olivier's *Henry V*. The "adopted" work, Mozart's Clarinet Concerto superbly complemented the visuals in *Out of Africa*. Prokofiev's cantata triumphantly endorsed his belief that a film score can be an organic, even symphonic experience, not merely an appendage to a film.

Dave Frishberg — In Cabaret. *Radio 3, 10.15pm.*
Frishberg's early training as a journalist in the United States has stood him in good stead now that he sings his own songs at the piano. His lyrics have the attention-grabbing style of a newspaper columnist. He can be both abrasive and sentimental, and his humour has the flavour of a good dry sherry. As for his keyboard skill, I can think of few cabaret entertainers can match it for sophistication. The concert was recorded in London. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley's castaway is the satirist Ian Hislop (r)
9.45 This Land Was Made for You and Me: In the second of six talks, writer Chris Witz describes the appeal of her native New Orleans
10.00-10.30 Dear Diary (FM only): Extracts from January 14
10.00 News; An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 The Bible (LW only): The Gospel of Mark (4/7)
10.30 Woman's Hour from Belfast. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 The Natural History Programme
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm The Food Programme 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Waverley, by Sir Walter Scott (2/4) (r)
3.00 News; Goodbye to All That: Simon Parkes visits the artificially created TriBeCa district of New York (r)
3.30 Faith, Fact and Fiction: Rosemary Hartill looks at the turbulent life of the writer and poet John Donne. The reader is Garard Green (r)
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope visits an exhibition on the history of Scottish art from the 16th century
4.45 Short Story: One Brief Day, by Ken Whitmore. Read by David Fleeshman (r)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Going Places: The transport magazine
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week, with Lemn Sissay
8.05 Any Questions? MPs Tony Benn and John Biffen; Barbara Follett, founder of Emily's List UK; and Sir Bernard Ingham, former chief press secretary to Margaret Thatcher, tackle the issues raised in Eccleston, Merseyside. The chairman is Jonathan Dimbleby
8.50 Bright Sparks: Anne Kelleher talks to Jonardon Ganeri about Indian philosophy (r)
9.15 Kaleidoscope: Robert Sandall interviews drummer Charlie Watts of the Rolling Stones (r)
9.45 Letter from America 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Mist in the Mirror, by Susan Hill. Gareth Armstrong reads the final part
11.00 Week Ending: Satirical review of the week's news
11.25 Fourth Column, with Simon Hoggart
11.45 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)



CLASSIC COUNTDOWN.
SATURDAY 9AM-NOON.
CLASSIC FM 100-102

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (89041820) **8.40** Lamb Chops (7266733) **9.10** Cartoons (2988269) **9.30** Card Sharks (9813608) **9.55** Concentration (9821627) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (6043882) **10.30** Love at First Sight (71153) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (35998) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (95733) **12.30pm** Paradise Beach (12998) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (89563) **2.00** King (58153) **3.00** Another World (8672207) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (2265714) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (3240) **6.00** Games World (9153) **6.30** Paradise Beach (3733) **7.00** Rescue (1269) **7.30** Growing Pains (9917) **8.00** WWF Mania (78578) **9.00** Crime International (33917) **9.30** Code 3 (25462) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (51801) **11.00** The Untouchables (49191) **12.00** The Streets of San Francisco (46757) **1.00am** Night Court (47592) **1.30-2.00** Maniac Mansion (64757)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise Europe (26801) **9.30** ABC Nightline (47462) **10.30** Memories of 1970-91 (87199) **11.30** Japan Business Today (79375) **12.30pm** News and Business Report (87135) **1.30** CBS This Morning (37694) **2.30** Parliament (30337) **3.30** The Lords (34998) **4.30** News and Business Report (8530) **5.00** Live at Five (305646) **7.30** *FT* Reports (7559) **9.30** Talkback (23004) **11.30** CBS News (81424) **12.30am** ABC News (89554) **1.30** Critical Earth (61950) **2.30** Memories of 1970-91 (82080) **3.30** Talkback (94826) **4.30** Beyond 2000 (80573) **5.30-6.00** CBS News (12641)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (5483085)
10.00 Final Shot — The Hank Gathers Story (1992): Biopic (16714)
12.00 A Girl Named Tamiko (1962): A man wants to marry for US citizenship (15646)
2.00pm Genghis Khan (1965). Omar Sharif plays the notorious Mongol ruler (88472530)
4.05 The Silencers (1966): Dean Martin stars in the spoof spy story (91230266)
6.00 Final Shot — The Hank Gathers Story (as 10am) (62917)
8.00 Wayne's World (1992): Mike Myers and Dana Carvey front a zany cable television show (38897530)
9.40 US Top Ten (168882)
10.00 The Hand That Rocks the Cradle (1992): Nanny Rebecca DeMornay wreaks revenge on Annabella Sciorra (699068)
11.50 Bruce Lee: Martial Arts Master (713714)
12.50am Double X (1991). Norman Wisdom wants to leave his gang (474554)
2.25 Becoming Colette (1991). Rags-to-riches story starring Mathilda May (239115)
4.00 Still of the Night (1982): Compulsive thriller starring Roy Scheider, Meryl Streep and Jessica Tandy (23486). Ends at **5.30**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Comanche Station (1960). Randolph Scott western (24795)
8.00 I Confess (1953): Priest Montgomery Clift listens to the confession of a murderer. With Anne Baxter (29240)
10.00 Stay Hungry (1976) Jeff Bridges buys a gym and befriends Arnold Schwarzenegger (11733). Ends at **12.00**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Sweet Smell of Success (1957): Burt Lancaster attempts to break up his sister's romance. With Tony Curtis (51269)
8.00 The Little Marines (1990). Three teenagers go camping in Arkansas (90337)
10.00 Where the Red Fern Grows (1974). A disabled soldier returns home (14356)
12.00 You, Me and Uncle Bob (1992): Two children become matchmakers (13288)
2.00pm Vincent and Me (1990): A girl becomes embroiled in art fraud (40795)
4.00 The Little Marines (as 8am) (6714)
6.00 Chance of a Lifetime (1990) A widow enjoys a new lease of life (60559)
8.00 Duplicates (1991): Science fiction thriller in which a couple set out to rescue their kidnapped son. With Kim Greist (65004)
10.00 Devlin (1992): Bryan Brown is suspected of murder (697608)
11.50 The Doors (1991): Val Kilmer stars as the rock singer Jim Morrison (29052375)
2.10am Pump Up the Volume (1990). Christian Slater is a shy student by day and a pirate DJ by night (162844)
3.55 Far Out Man (1990): Tommy Chong as an aging hippie (9358573). Ends at **5.20**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Soccer News (4440191) **7.15** Prime Bodies (342563) **7.45** NHRA Drag Racing (792004) **8.15** Soccer News (6817820) **8.30** Survival of the Fittest (77424) **9.00** Prime Bodies (91004) **9.30** Boot Room (67240) **10.30** Bullriders (57375) **11.30** Supercross (89153) **12.30pm** Boots 'n' All (51191) **1.30** French Football League (52820) **2.30** Sports Special (2882) **3.00** US PGA Golf (50578) **5.00** Boot Room (4998) **6.00** Soccer (26004) **7.00** The Big League: Leeds v Wigan (945288) **9.30** US PGA Golf (16085) **11.30** Soccer (34530) **12.30am** Sports Special (37486) **1.00-3.00** US PGA Golf (83365)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (86646) **8.00** Equestrianism (12269) **9.00** Boxing (27725) **10.00** Alpine Skiing (152801) **1.00pm** Speedskating (11356) **2.00** Paris-Dakar Rally (9207) **2.30** Basketball (74462) **4.00** American Ice Hockey (84849) **5.30** Alpine Skiing (19356) **6.30** Eurosport News (9559) **7.00** Speedskating (96882) **8.30** Paris-Dakar Rally (8578) **9.00** Boxing (93801) **11.00** Body Building (83559) **12.00** Paris-Dakar Rally (75134) **12.30-1.00am** News (22554)

UK GOLD
7.00am The Sullivans (1422882) **7.30** Neighbours (1441917) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (7370998) **8.30** EastEnders (7379269) **9.00** The Bill (7393849) **9.30** All Creatures Great and Small (6564801) **10.30** Casualty (6909356) **11.30** The Sullivans (7455714) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7373085) **12.30pm** Neighbours (9658530) **1.00** EastEnders (1421153) **1.30** The Bill (9657801) **2.00** Are You Being Served? (5209424) **2.30** Bread (1587191) **3.00** Dallas (7459530) **4.00** The Colbys (7175608) **4.55** Blankety Blank (57831820) **5.25** Give Us a Clue (62409801) **5.55** Happy Ever After (1506207) **6.30** EastEnders (1579172) **7.00** Driving Ambition (1887288) **7.55** Are You Being Served? (9612191) **8.25** Bread (2074882) **9.00** Casualty (3977462) **10.00** The Bill (7374714) **10.30** Rory Bremner (7383462) **11.00** Top of the Pops (6744443) **11.45** Dr Who (5063207) **12.15am** FILM: Earth vs The Spider (1958, b/w): A carnivorous arachnid crashes a school party (76703270) **1.30-2.00** Video Bites (4931689)

CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am RatKan II (40917) **9.00** It's Droibee Time (69578) **11.00** RatKan II (13191) **2.00** Madeline (6511) **2.30** Cupido (1370646) **2.45** Babar (210511) **3.15-5.00** RatKan II (8233004)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Dawn Patrol (70085) **7.30** Guts (82620) **8.00** Rugrats (76795) **8.30** Fraggle Rock (75066) **9.00** Out of Control (99646) **9.30** Kablooey (25559) **10.00** Wisdom of the Gnomes (40356) **10.30** We All Have Tales King Midas and the Golden Touch (88530) **11.00** Cartoon Capers (79733) **11.30** Wild Side Show (70462) **12.00** Zany Adventures (79882) **12.30pm** The World of David the Gnome (29375) **1.00** Nick Jr Storytime (79356) **1.30** Eureeka's Castle (50462) **2.30** Fraggle Rock (6284) **3.00** Zany Adventures (1288) **3.30** Speed Racer (2269) **4.00** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (4004) **4.30** Get the Picture (8408) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (6733) **5.30** Guts (4240) **6.00** Rugrats (1153) **6.30-7.00** Animal Antics (5733)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Wild South (7476207) **5.00** Biography Brigitte Bardot (7482172) **5.55** Anne Martin's Postcards (8355066) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (1384337) **7.00** Discovery Life (3979820) **8.00** Going Places (3955240) **9.00** Blades on Fire (3975004) **10.00** *Skybound* (7372356) **10.30** *The X-planes* (7381004) **11.00** Coral Reef (7444608) **11.30-12.00** The Global Family (7093658)

BRAVO
12.00 Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman (7368153) **12.30pm** FILM: Fighting Sullivans (1944, b/w): Five brothers enlist (4952172) **2.30** FILM: All For Mary (1956). Two men compete for a pretty girl (1993608) **4.00** The Flying Nun (1563511) **4.30** My Three Sons (1569795) **5.00** The Beverly Hillbillies (5218172) **5.30** Donny and Marie (1583375) **6.00** Doris Day (1580288) **6.30** Car 54, Where Are You? (1584240) **7.00** The Mothers-in-Law (5205608) **7.30** The Smothers Brothers Show (1560424) **8.00** FILM: An American in Paris (1951): Gene Kelly musical (3953882) **10.00** FILM: Las Vegas Shakedown (1955, b/w): A hoodlum threatens a casino owner (1990559) **11.30-12.00** The Twilight Zone (7398004)

UK LIVING
7.00am Living Magazine (3181191) **8.00** Family Matters (9476882) **8.30** Rendezvous (9475153) **9.00** Days of Our Lives (7209917) **10.00** The All New Dr Ruth Show (3863337) **10.30** The Young and the Restless (8203882) **11.30** The Fish Course (3908608) **12.00** Stars and Signs (61100207) **12.15pm** Practical Living (47143658) **12.30pm** Divorce Court (6375085) **1.00** Home Wise (7615917) **1.30** Rendezvous (6374356) **2.00** Agony Hour (3664066) **3.00** Megazine Hour (8984443) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (38148627) **4.00** Definition (7151153) **4.30** Infatuation (7157337) **5.00** Music Quest (5944646) **5.30** Fame Fortune and Romance (8585443) **5.45** Kilroy (4599998) **6.30** Floyd on France (7152882) **7.00** Definition (5924882) **7.30** That's Amor (7158066) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (5425066) **9.00** Shadows of the Heart (40357288) **10.50** Fame and Fortune (1641882) **11.00** That's Amor (3922288) **11.30** Infatuation (3692649) **12.00-1.00am** Agony Hour (3145399)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm The Wonder Years (3761) **5.30** Zorro (5998) **6.00** Where I Live (5511) **6.30** Family Catchphrase (9191) **7.00** The Pyramid Game (7627) **7.30** All Clued Up (5375) **8.00** Altogether Now (6375) **8.30** GP (5882) **9.00** Lou Grant (41462) **10.00** Trivial Pursuit (21269) **10.30** Entertainment Now (30917) **11.00** Remington Steele (98578) **12.00-1.00am** The Big Valley (15825)

MTV
6.00am Awake on the Wild Side (395675) **9.00** Ingo (798627) **12.00** Greatest Hits (51998) **1.00pm** Simone (852004) **3.30** The Report (4688375) **3.45** At the Movies (4676530) **4.00** News (7822578) **4.15** 3 from 1 (7805801) **4.30** Dial MTV (6004) **5.00** The Soul of MTV (9849) **5.30** Music Non-Stop (19578) **7.00** Unplugged with Neil Young (38882) **8.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (7240) **9.00** Greatest Hits (43820) **10.00** The Report (866172) **10.15** At The Movies (861627) **10.30** News at Night (638849) **10.45** 3 from 1 (628004) **11.00** Beavis and Butt-Head (11630) **11.30** VJ Marijne (40443) **12.00** The Pulse (91195) **12.30am** VJ Marijne (88134) **1.00** Chill Out Zone (24283) **2.00-7.00** Night Videos (1701221)

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (37443) **7.00** Regional News (76356) **7.30** Asian Morning (88191) **8.00** Hindi News (47207) **8.30** Urdu News (1834462) **8.45** English News (1839917) **9.00** Nangey Paon (46191) **10.00** Hindi FILM: Lakhon Mein Ek (787511) **1.00pm** Nukkad (75627) **1.30** Pakistani FILM (611004) **4.30** Kiddie Time (1172) **5.00-6.00** TVA — Dedicated to You (3424) **7.00** Sportsworld (3269) **7.30** (D Youth (1917) **8.00** English News (252269) **8.15** Hindi FILM, Patthar Dil (39393153) **11.15** Janmdata (476511) **12.05am** Five Past Midnight (2192931) **1.35-6.00** Sight and Sound (67082196)

TNT
Tonight's Theme: It Started with a Kiss
7.00pm It Started With a Kiss (1959): Showgirl Debbie Reynolds marries air force officer Glenn Ford (50476563)
9.00 A Kiss in the Dark (1949, b/w): David Niven meets Jane Wyman (89531511)
10.40 The Kissing Bandit (1948): Co-starring Frank Sinatra and Kathryn Grayson (53650882)
12.35am The Midnight Kiss (1949): A truck driver meets a young diva (30076738)
2.30 Kiss the Other Sheik (1965): Marcello Mastroianni stars (41272592). Ends at **4.00**

CNN
Twenty-four hour news

CMT
Country music from midnight to 4pm

QVC
Home shopping channel

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM 88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. **GLR:** FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz.
COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY

Four Englishmen named in first international panel of umpires

England hope for greater protection

By Simon Wilde

AS ENGLAND'S cricketers made final preparations before departing for their tour of the Caribbean tomorrow, they must have been heartened by the announcement yesterday of the first international panel of umpires, which will be operating by the time their Test series with West Indies opens in Jamaica next month and which may hold the key to the success of their mission.

Although the exact identity of the umpires for these matches will not be known for perhaps another ten days, they will be drawn from the two West Indians on the panel — Steve Bucknor and Lloyd Barker, one or other of whom will stand in each match — and probably two of the Pakistanis and Indians named yesterday: Khizar Hayat, Mahboob Shah, V. K. Ramaswamy and Srinivas Venkataraghavan.

"Venkat", the former Indian captain, is one of only two members of the panel, which is sponsored by National Grid, to have played Test cricket. The other is Ken Palmer, who might be considered the only "controversial" choice in view of how he upset the Pakistan players during the Old Trafford Test of 1992. Palmer returned a sweater to Aqib Javed, whom he had just no-balled for intimidatory bowling, with more emphasis than might be regarded as usual, although this may have been for no other reason than that he had caught it in his belt.

Possibly what upset the Pakistanis most, though, was not that Palmer was firm with Aqib's sweater but that he was firm with his bowling — and it is exactly this sort of firmness that the International Cricket Council will be looking for from its panel when it begins work on February 1.

A strict application of the law on intimidatory bowling is also what Michael Atherton's team will be looking for in the Caribbean.

When England last toured there, four years ago, they received little protection from the umpires when they were being subjected to a barrage of bouncers, as most notably Robin Smith was in Antigua.

David Richards, the ICC's chief executive, said yesterday that there could be no appeal against the choice of overseas umpire for a particular match or series.

"All countries have agreed to the concept," he said, "and recognise that any rights of objection they previously held have now been forfeited."

The progress of the panel and the individual performance of its 20 members — only 18 were named yesterday as Australia wish to wait until after the last of its international fixtures this season is staged next month — will be reviewed at the ICC's annual meeting in July, by which time there will have been 15 Test matches played around the world under the scheme.

Apart from Palmer, the three other English umpires on the panel are Dickie Bird — who will stand in the first Test under the scheme between New Zealand and Pakistan starting on February 10 — Nigel Plews and David Shepherd.

John Woodcock, page 38
Familiar foe, page 38

FULL PANEL

England: H D Bird, D R Shepherd, N T Plews, K E Palmer.
India: S Venkataraghavan, V K Ramaswamy.
New Zealand: B Aldridge, S Dunne.
Pakistan: K Hayat, M Shah.
South Africa: K Liebenberg, B Lambson.
Sri Lanka: B Cooray, K Francis.
West Indies: S Bucknor, L Barker.
Zimbabwe: I Robinson, K Kanjee.
Australia will make their nominations by early February



Shadows before: Atherton, left, and Stewart in discussion in London yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Auditors criticise workings of Sports Council

By John Goodbody

THE Sports Council, whose role in British sport is under review by the Government, was yesterday criticised by the National Audit Office (NAO) for its handling of publicly-funded assets and services.

Morale is low at the Council, which is also due to face questioning on February 21 by the House of Commons public affairs accounts committee over expense claims and charges that it has become too bureaucratic in distributing £48 million of taxpayers' money.

The NAO, which certifies the accounts of government departments and public bodies, said yesterday: "The arrangements put in place by the Council to strengthen their commercial activities have weakened accountability for and control over publicly-funded assets and services."

The report said there were "inadequate arrangements to prevent conflicts of duty or interest or the appearance of such conflicts". It recommended that new arrangements should be made to ensure that the Department of National Heritage has "adequate transparency" of the activities of the Council and its associated Trust and companies.

To help British sport, the Council has set up a Trust and trading companies, frequently with officials of the Council serving on several of these bodies. In addition, David Pickup, who retired as director-general of the Council last year, is now chief executive of the Trust company. The NAO stressed that these individuals believed they were acting in the best interests of the Council group and added "there are no implications of impropriety indicated by these audit findings".

A spokesman for the Sports Council said it was pleased with much of the report, including the highlighting of the saving of £1.6 million at the five national centres: "The issue of the trust and companies is only five per cent of our total budget," he said, adding that the problem was that the Sports Council is financially answerable to the NAO, but the Sports Council Trust, which owns the national centres, is answerable to the Charity Commissioners.

Scotland dismiss Chalmers injection allegation

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

SCOTLAND officials arrived in Cardiff last night shrugging off allegations that Craig Chalmers, the stand-off half who plays against Wales tomorrow in the opening round of the five nations' championship, had breached rugby union guidelines on pain-killing injections.

A Scottish newspaper claimed that Chalmers received a banned injection before taking the field against New Zealand at Murrayfield in November, but, after conducting an internal enquiry, Bill Hogg, the chief executive of the Scottish Rugby Union, said the player had been completing a course of medication to alleviate a calf strain.

Chalmers had been taking anti-inflammatory tablets, piroxicam, but, on the morning of the match, James Robson, a member of the Scotland medical team, changed the method of giving the medication to an injection. "Chalmers did not require the injection to take the field and the final decision to play was his own," Hogg said.

Scotland have been at the forefront of the drive to keep rugby clean and it is inconceivable that their officials would have gone against the sport's recommendations on drug use, which say: "Any player unable to participate without the administration of drugs or injections to relieve pain or acute illness must be considered unfit to play."

Robson did not consult other members of the team management about his decision, Hogg added, but it was made clear that the injection was not a pain-killer, rather the completion of a method of repairing the damage.

Neither Scotland nor Wales reported any injuries from training yesterday and the Welsh confirmed that Mike Hall, the Cardiff centre, would be fit to play.

Ireland, before leaving Dublin for their match with France in Paris, added Steve McKinty, the Bangor flanker, to their party. McKinty, who had a good final trial, travelled as cover for Neil Francis and Michael Galwey, who have been suffering recently from rib and back injuries respectively.

Versatile Benazzi, page 38

Keeping calm proves a trial in Conner's wake



Lawrie Smith believes patience is a virtue as he and his Whitbread race crew await wind assistance

Five days into the third stage of the Whitbread Round the World Race and patience is proving the first commodity to run into short supply. Here we are on board *Intrum Justitia*, halfway across the Australia Bight and still waiting for the promised Roaring Forties to blow.

Only *Winston*, Dennis Conner's American 60-foot yacht, which took a chance in breaking away from the fleet on Monday with a run south, has picked up better winds to thrust her more than 100 miles ahead.

Like Pierre Fehlmann's Maxi, *Merit Cup*, we have stayed north, expecting the high-pressure system enveloping the fleet to move across. Instead, it has parked behind us. The vagaries are such that boats 20 miles to the south have been covering 15-20 miles more than us overnight.

We are now hard on the wind making nine knots, waiting impatiently for the high to pass above us so we can reach off on the opposite tack. Only then can we start to challenge the leaders. *Winston*, by contrast, is sailing at a much better angle to the same wind and speeding along at 12.6 knots. We expect a break in the weather overnight and can then challenge Chris Dickson and his crew on *Tokio* again, but it will not be until the fleet reaches Tasmania that we can hope to get on level terms with *Winston* once more.

Now that we are breasting the fortieth parallel, temperatures are starting to drop, but our better diet goes some way to compensate. Yesterday, we enjoyed chicken and pasta.

Another plus is that the boat is much drier than during the last leg across the Southern Ocean from Uruguay. Many leaks were plugged during our stay in Fremantle and, with the winds so much lighter, we have seen little spray. The only drama on board has been a broken jockey pole.

☐ Conner and his crew on *Winston* continued to edge ahead of the Whitbread fleet yesterday, pulling out a 112-mile lead over Grant Dalton's Maxi, *New Zealand Endeavour*, and maintaining a 120-mile advantage over the second-placed rival Whitbread 60, *Tokio*.

The American skipper reported that spirit on board was high: "The last 24 hours have been exciting for us. We sailed the more southerly route and have constantly had more wind than the rest of the fleet."

The Meteorological Office at Bracknell predicted yesterday that the high-pressure system dogging the fleet will move eastwards before a cold front moves in on Saturday to provide the chasing boats with a chance to eat into *Winston's* lead.

POSITIONS (at 14.00GMT yesterday, with miles to Auckland): Whitbread 60 class: 1, Winston (D Conner and B Butterworth, US), 2,190; 2, Tokio (C Dickson, NZ), 2,310; 3, Yamaha (R Field, NZ), 2,348; 4, Galicia 93 Pescanova (J de la Gandara, Sp), 2,358; equal 5, Intrum Justitia (L Smith, Eur) and Brookfield (G Millen, B), 2,380; 7, Dolphin & Youth Challenge (M Humphries, GB), 2,390 (estimated); 8, Heineken (D Riley, US), 2,416; 9, Hetman Sahaidachny (E Platon, Ukr), 2,457; 10, Odessa (A Verba, Ukr), 2,560. Maxi class: 1, NZ Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ), 2,302; 2, La Poste (E Tabarly, Fr), 2,330; 3, Merit Cup (F Fehlmann, Switz), 2,380; 4, Uruguay Natural (G Vanzini, Uru), 2,540.

☐ *Information provided by BT*

"True friends will never steal your wife, borrow your car, or ask you for money. If only it were true of your brandy."

MARSHAL FRUEISS,
24-YEAR-OLD MILLIONAIRE, CALIFORNIA.



INTRODUCE SOME CALIFORNIAN INTO THE CONVERSATION.

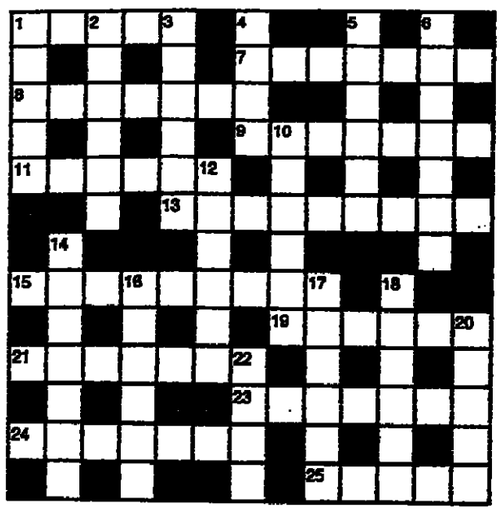
E&J

SINGLE CASK MATURED BRANDY.

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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 62



ACROSS
1 Chinese criminal society (5)
7 Assorted (7)
8 Turn on axis (7)
9 Bring into actuality (7)
11 Dog; yours truly (6)
13 Financial account required by Revenue (3,6)
15 Record of events in time order (9)
19 Curried pasty (6)
21 Giddiness (7)
23 Churchyard evergreen (3,4)
24 The tallest mammal (7)
25 Whence the good news was brought to Aix (5)

DOWN
1 Ring shape (5)
2 Ask to come (6)
3 Soft, sweet (of tone) (6)
4 Assert (4)
5 Soldier's assigned lodging (6)
6 Over-hasty, superficial (7)
10 Adds to members' list (6)
12 Non-commissioned seaman (6)
14 Mythical bird; Arizona capital (7)
16 Disbursement (6)
17 Insect with long, thin body (6)
18 French stock exchange (6)
20 One acting for another (5)
22 Town crier's call (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 61

ACROSS: 1 Birdsong 5 Hawk 9 Brigand 10 Angel 11 Rook 12 Swallow 14 Dipper 16 Parrot 19 Chicken 21 Duck 24 T-bone 25 Moorish 26 Ruff 27 One-sided

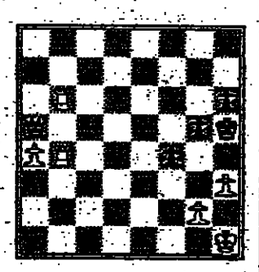
DOWN: 1 Baby 2 Rhino 3 Sparkle 4 Nudist 6 Angular 7 Kilowatt 8 Lava 13 Educator 15 Pair off 17 Arduous 18 Gnomon 20 Kiev 22 Child 23 Thud

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By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Mieses - Unknown, Metz 1935. This position features a truly superb finish as White strips away the apparently strong defensive shield around the black king. White to play.



Solution, page 37
Raymond Keene, page 5

By Philip Howard

ENFUNDYING
a. Frozen stiff
b. Making charitable donations
c. From the bottom

DEMOCRITEAN
a. Democratic
b. Empirical
c. Laughing at everything

HOREHOUND
a. A small beagle
b. A prostitute
c. A bitter herb

JUSSEL
a. Mince
b. An Anglo-Saxon advocate
c. A coarse linen

Answers on page 37